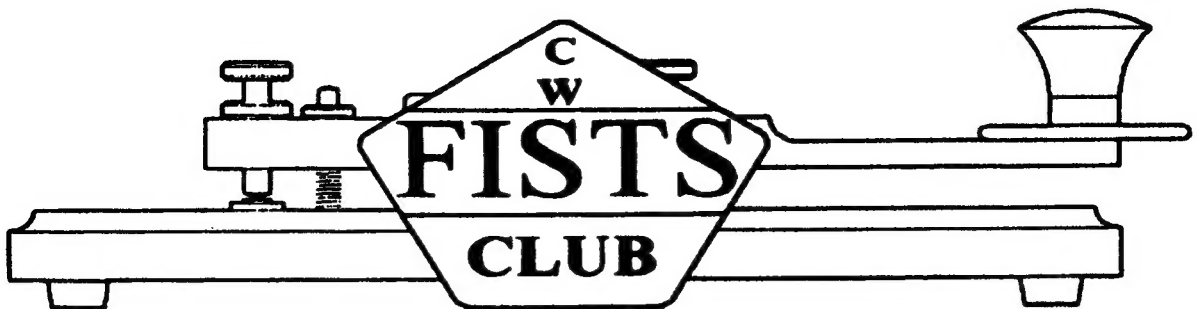


The Keynote

Newsletter of FISTS CW Club, the active chapter of the
International Morse Preservation Society

"Accuracy Transcends Speed"



- Further the use of CW
- Encourage newcomers to use CW
- Engender friendships among members

"When You've Worked A FISTS, You've Worked A Friend"

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - PLEASE READ

HOW DO I JOIN? Membership is open to all people interested in Morse code, irrespective of their speed and ability. An application form is not necessary to join, but it gives us a more complete picture of our membership. You can download a North American membership application on the FISTS web page: <http://www.fists.org>.

An application can be mailed to you. Send a message Jim Ranieri, AA9LS, aa9ls@turbotoads.com and he will email it to you, or mail an SASE to him at 33778 Rebecca Rd, Kingston IL 60145 and Jim will send you an application via return postal mail. To join without an application, send your name, call, and mailing address with your membership fee to Nancy WZ8C, PO Box 47, Hadley, MI 48440 (checks payable to FISTS).

To join using Paypal (www.paypal.com), send the funds to fists@tir.com. In the comments box, type NEW MEMBERSHIP, your callsign, name and mailing address if different from your Paypal address.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST? Subscriptions are **\$15.00/year**; Under 17= **FREE**; College students = **\$10**. Family members may join FISTS at no extra charge-only one newsletter is mailed per household. **Please make checks payable to FISTS CW Club and send to FISTS, P O Box 47, Hadley, MI 48440. Do not send FISTS correspondence to Nancy WZ8C's callbook address.** Checks can take 6-8 weeks to clear from the day received. Nancy processes them, then takes them to the bookkeeper. The bookkeeper enters them into the "official books", then takes them to the bank. Depending on schedules that month, it can take 6-8 weeks. *It doesn't take 8 weeks to get your number, it just may take that long for your check to clear.*

HOW DO I JOIN USING MY PAYPAL ACCOUNT? North American FISTS accepts PAYPAL (<http://www.paypal.com>). Address your PAYPAL payment to **FISTS@TIR.COM** To join via Paypal, type "New Membership" in the Paypal Comments Box, your name (if different from the name on your Paypal account), callsign, and mailing address.

HOW DO I RENEW? To renew, send \$15 to Nancy WZ8C (checks payable to FISTS) at FISTS, PO Box 47 Hadley MI 48440.

HOW DO I RENEW VIA PAYPAL? If you have a Paypal account, send the funds to fists@tir.com; to renew put "RENEWAL" and your callsign in the Comment Box.

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN TO RENEW? We try to send out renewal postcards, but if you renew prior to your renewal month it will save postage and printing costs as well as volunteer time. Your renewal month is on your Keynote mailing label in the form of year, month, date. For example 2005/4/4 would be a renewal month April 2005. Your membership runs out the last day of that month. The computer program requires a specific date, to make it faster to type, the day of the month is the same number as the month. 2005/12/12; 2006/5/5 etc.

MAY I RENEW FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR AT A TIME? Yes! You may renew for as many years at a time as you like, but there is not a 'quantity' discount.

MY MEMBERSHIP LAPSED, CAN I GET MY OLD NUMBER BACK? Yes. Numbers are not reassigned. If you have had a number in the past, let Nancy know at the time of your renewal so she can 'reactivate' it

WHERE DO I MAIL A DX APPLICATION OR RENEWAL? ZL,VK applications are go to Ralph Sutton, ZL2AOH at 12C Herbert Gardens, 186 The Terrace, Wellington 6001, New Zealand. East Asia inquiries to Jean at join@fists-ea.org All other applications are to be mailed to Geo Longden, G3ZQS at 119 Cemetery Rd, Darwen Lancs, BB3 2LZ.

HOW DO I GET A NUMBER FOR MY LOCAL CLUB? Clubs with FCC call signs may be assigned a FISTS number at no charge providing there is at least one FISTS member in good standing in the local club. These clubs are not legally affiliated with FISTS, nor does FISTS have anything to do with how the club is run, etc. It just means the club has a FISTS number and is worth three points toward awards. If the club wants a newsletter, there is a \$15 a year charge. To defray cost, please enclose \$1 if the club wants a membership certificate and \$3 for award certificates.

FISTS CW CLUB

THE INTERNATIONAL MORSE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

NORTH AMERICAN MEMO

EDITOR:

NANCY KOTT WZ8C PO Box 47 HADLEY MI 48440

NANCY @TIR.COM PHONE: (810) 797-2033 FAX (810) 797-5808

Hi FISTS! This is a combo issue - to those new to FISTS, a combo issue generally occurs when, for one reason or another, I run out of time and don't get an issue out. So, I combine two issue into one.

I hope you get this in time for the Coast to Coast operating event. I have sent out several mass emails about this event, so if you are on the list, it won't be a problem. Are you on our email list? More and more people are using email these days, and it really helps us get information out to you about FISTS activities and FCC happenings if you join our mailing list.

This list is not a reflector, and is only used for FISTS update/informational purposes. Typically, I'll send out one message a month, if that. We don't sell, share or publish the list of addresses anywhere, so don't worry about getting spam as a result.

If you would like to join our notification emailing list, please write to Kathi Hilton at, fistelist@comcast.net and include your name, callsign and FISTS Number. She'll sign you up.

We now have an advertising banner on www.qrz.com. This will be interesting, because we have never really advertised anywhere. We have the option of changing the banner whenever we want, and can have more than one banner in the rotation schedule. I would like to appeal to all the artistic/computer types out there to design a banner for us. I am not a graphics expert, but I created a basic banner just to get us started.

The banner has to be in .gif format with a size of 468 x 60. It cannot be animated. If you would like to submit a banner, email it to me at nancy@tir.com. I'll print them in an upcoming Keynote so everyone can admire them and will add them to the rotation on QRZ.com.

QRZ.com has a feature that keeps track of how many 'clicks' our ad gets. If you're interested I can list how many clicks each ad generates in the newsletter.

We'd like to update the web page. If you have any suggestions for things you'd like to see on the web page or suggestions for improvements please let me know. If you have a web page link on our web page, please check it and make sure it is current. I went through the "clubs with web pages" links the other day and found about 10 bad links.

This issue contains a copy of the new East Asia newsletter - called *morseEAsia* (EA = East Asia). It is developing into a very nice newsletter. Some of the photos didn't reproduce very clearly in our North American Memo, but it gives you a good idea of what is going on FISTS-wise in Asia.

Have you worked/operated KN0WCW yet? Trustee Karl wrote up a nice primer, I'm including it in this issue. Signing up is easy - operating is fun (and easy!)

We have a new award starting Jan '06 - details in the next newsletter! 73 88 33 Nancy WZ8C

Welcome to the New FISTS

FISTS # Call sign First Name State Sponsor

11728 , KC7YKT , Tom , OR
11729 , KA2MHS , Fitzroy , NY
11730 , WA9SLT , Robert , IL
11731 , WA0SAP , DAVE , MO
11732 , K4MKS , KENT , SC
11733 , K1DX , GEORGE , MA
11734 , KA7TYT , JOHN , FL
11735 , WD3K , BILL , PA
11736 , KE5EJH , JACOB , TX , KD5FJE
11737 , KB1KVQ , GREG , MA
11738 , KQ6SU , DAVE , CA , W1RWB
11739 , KG6JLM , STEPHEN , CA
11740 , KG6OPW , ALEJANDRO , CA
11741 , WU9T , DON , FL
11742 , WA6EKR , DAVID , CA
11743 , WB9PWQ , DICK , IL
11744 , WA6FFA , DANIEL , CA
11745 , W9ILF , IVIN , IN
11746 , N5DWI , JOHN , TX
11747 , KT5E , Jay , CO
11748 , WD9HBC , JIM , MA
11749 , KE2MM , ED , NJ
11750 , KH6KH , Honolulu QCWA Chapter 206,
HI , K1ER
11751 , N4KJ , ROB , NC
11752 , WA7ZLI , HANK , TX
11753 , AG4EA , BILL , SC
11754 , KG6YPD , LYNN , CA
11755 , W7YCW , ROSS , WA , WB2FXK
11756 , KG4WJC , JOSH , VA
11757 , N4SSD , FRED , TN , WA4RCW
11758 , KA9AZD , JOHN , WA
11759 , WA3SXU , LEWIS , PA
11760 , KC0MZM , HARRY , KS
11761 , WB2PJH , DAVE , NJ , WA2EQF
11762 , W4XJ , RANDY , VA
11763 , KG4OGN , ALEX , FL
11764 , KA5KXW , KEN , OK
11765 , KB3I , IRA , MD
11766 , KL1JP , DAN , AK
11767 , K6LRF , LEN , CA
11768 , KI4HEX , THOMAS , FL , WB2FXK

FISTS # Call sign First Name State Sponsor

11769 , KA5BEE , MEL , MS
11770 , KK5LU , KING , TX , K1HK
11771 , WB9NXY , MIKE , CA
11772 , KQ2I , TONY , CA
11773 , K2PJT , AL , NJ
11774 , W9FCC , DAN , MN
11775 , W1EH , CHRIS , VA
11776 , WU0E , JOE , IA
11777 , N0MLZ , AARON , IA
11778 , AB9IO , TONY , WI
11779 , AI4IG , KAY-UWE , TN
11780 , W4SGN , DON , AL , W9QB
11781 , KC8MFF , ROBERT , WV , WB2FXK
11782 , WA5ZUP , CURTIS , NM
11783 , N2ADE , JOHN , NJ , N4LMI
11784 , AA3QN , DANA , PA
11785 , KH6LDO , BOB , HI
11786 , KA4TPC , BOB , VA , WB2FXK
11787 , KI4GAP , JOE , VA
11788 , KA6SYY , TERRY , CA
11789 , KI6ADM , Minuteman , CA , KU6A
11790 , KD5TLC , FRANK , AR
11791 , KC7VHS , PERRY , NM
11792 , AA1SZ , DALE , AZ
11793 , KC2LSD , CODY , NJ
11794 , K8CRC , CRAIG , MI
11795 , KB3MMI , MIKE , PA , KF3DO
11796 , AB0YX , JEAN , MO , AB0SX
11797 , VA3RKM , BOB , ON
11798 , K0KES , JOE , NE
11799 , W4RJP , BOB , VA , K4UK
11800 , N7KE , Redmond Top Key Contest Club
WA
11801 , N9ESH , JIM , IL
11802 , KI4JOT , PATRICK , NC
11803 , N4BBB , SCOTT , TN
11804 , KG6WXB , RICK , CA
11805 , KE7ELQ , BERNIE , WA
11806 , K5JJ , JOHN , OK , N5DUQ
11807 , W2SNX , SAM , NY
11808 , AD5UU , PAUL , TX
11809 , KC0RXY , GENE , WI , K4CHS
11810 , KI8AJ , ARNOLD , MI
11811 , N2SKP , SHIRLEY , NY

11812	K1GTS	GREG	NH	
11813	W6MX	PAUL	CA	KB7N
11814	KI4ET	JIM	GA	
11815	K6FK	MARY	HI	N6KB
11816	KA5FJY	Theodore	NM	
11817	KI4JPF	TIM	GA	
11818	KX4OM	TED	GA	
11819	KD7KD	AL	MT	WU7R
11820	KG9HG	CURTIS	IN	
11821	NA9U	JOHN	IN	
11822	K7VN	DON	UT	
11823	N4JAM	STEVE	VA	
11824	WP4MVP	Ramon	PR	WB2FXK
11825	KG6LPP	Daniel	CA	
11826	N1IDX	NATE	MA	
11827	W0JFR	JOHN	CO	
11828	W2NAF	NATE	NJ	
11829	W6QE	MILT	CA	
11830	WG7Y	BOB	WY	
11831	K2BK	PAUL	CT	
11832	K7ON	BRIAN	AZ	KE6OIO
11833	W9LUO	MARILYN	IL	
11834	N4JAH	JOE	NC	
11835	WA4RW	RONNIE	TN	
11836	KE3XN	DAVID	MD	
11837	VE7WEB	Brian	BC	Canada
11838	W8LBO	Timothy	MO	KI4DEF
11839	K6XL	PETE	CA	
11840	WB5WZM	ROY	TX	
11841	W2GJ	PETER	SC	
11842	WU0R	William	TX	WB2FXK
11843	W9HXM	DICK	WA	
11844	AC4RN	TOM	VA	
11845	AE6TY	WARD	CA	
11846	KE7EAG	ROB	OR	
11847	WA7OSQ	ART	WA	WA7CS
11848	W1ZT	George	MA	
11849	W5SXV	GENE	AR	
11850	K2X0X	CW Operators Club	FL	KG4NNN
11851	VE9XYL	IZABELL	NB	Canada
11852	W1ZQT	TED	CT	
11853	WB9UJS	MARK	FL	

11854	KW8B	Dick	MI	
11855	AB4KH	Bill	FL	
11856	K0ZOO	Jeremy	OK	N5AQ
11857	KC0SOG	DOUG	NE	
11858	KD7WQH	TONY	WA	
11859	K0IS	LARRY	IA	
11860	WA2BSW	RON	GA	
11861	KC8YVI	CARL	MI	
11862	N4OF	DAVE	VA	
11863	N3EF	ERIC	MD	
11864	AD6AF	RAY	CA	N3RSD
11865	KW3U	JIM	PA	
11866	KG4VQU	Quintin	VA	
11867	KD7REM	Christopher	WA	
11868	W4KDI	DAVID	NC	
11869	KC2NRQ	JAY	NY	WB2FXK
11870	W4LSC	DON	AZ	
11871	KG4KGW	BRIAN	FL	N4ZMP
11872	WA5PFJ	JOHN	TX	W9QB
11873	KE7EIP	MIKE	WA	
11874	KA5JRX	ROBERT	GA	KA3NZR
11876	KE7ESA	BERT	NV	
11877	WA9QNN	RON	WI	KG4IUQ
11878	KC9FVP	CHRIS	IL	

Corrections

KG6YSX, 11145, The Orange Radio Amateur Club was listed as just "Orange" in the last New Members listing.

Jim, 11452, KE5AFB, was incorrectly listed as KE4AFB.

SILENT KEYS

Bill Hawkins, W5BCK, #11078, is a Silent Key. No further information is available.

Forest Bahr, Sr., K4SEE became a Silent Key on March 27, 2005. No further information is available.

John Simrell, W0LHU, #5284 became a Silent Key on July 27, 2005. No further information is available.

Silent Key



Alan Wormser, N5LF, became a Silent Key on August 12, 2005 at the age of 48. Alan was a long-time FISTS member (#3027). I was very sad to change his membership status from "Active" to "Silent Key" on the membership roster.

Alan had a remarkable ability to be passionate as well as clear-thinking and eloquent. He was one of the driving forces behind the FISTS Petition to the FCC, as well as one of the writers of the Wormser-Adsit-Dinelli document to the FCC.

He attended Hamvention in 2004, spending many hours visiting at the FISTS booth. Soft-spoken and thoughtful, he impressed me with the depth of his conviction about the Morse code requirement and his dedication to the Amateur service with his emergency assistance work as well as teaching licensing classes. What surprised me about Alan, were the non-ham activities he was also passionate about; folk dancing, fencing and genealogy. I never would have guessed!

A very nice write-up about Alan was printed in the Washington Post (August 21). A blog has been set up at <http://www.alanwormser.blogspot.com> and a Friends Remembered page is at <http://www.eham.net/friends/displaystory/2712>. His personal web page is at <http://www.qsl.net/n5lf/>

Coast to Coast Contest = October 30th

The Annual Coast to Coast contest is scheduled for October 30th from 0000Z to 2400Z. It's sponsored by the Northwest Fists Club K7FFF.

That's 24 hours of FISTS fun waiting for you. Contact as many club stations that have FISTS numbers on as many bands as possible.

Last year we had more than 350 participants contacting 44 club stations.

Each unique club contact counts 3 points toward the Century award. In addition, contacts with GXØIPX #1, ZL6FF #9600, VK2FDU #9610, and KNØWCW #10,000 count 5 points.

The rules for the contest are as follows:

- Purpose: To contact as many FISTS clubs as possible.

- Mode: CW Only.

- Contest dates — Runs 24 hours 0000Z-2400Z October 30th (Pacific Daylight Time 5 PM Saturday to 5 PM Sunday). Clubs will operate to their own schedules. They are not required to be on the air the entire 24 hours of the event.

- Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. We encourage Clubs to use the Novice segments also. Sorry, no WARC bands. Clubs will call near regular FISTS frequencies. Please be courteous and listen for nets and QSOs in progress before calling CQ.

- Two categories of participants: QRP (5W or less) and QRO. All clubs will be considered QRO.

- Only clubs will call. Clubs will call — "CQ C2C"

- Exchange — Clubs and operators exchange the following elements:

1. FISTS Members and Clubs: RST, Name, State (or 2 character prefix if DX), and FISTS number. Clubs: Send only your club's FISTS number.

U.S. Example: 579, Stan, VA, 2934

DX Example: 599, Ralph, ZL, 1073

2. Non-FISTS: RST, Name, State, and Power (be sure to suffix with 'W').

U.S. Example: 459, Bill, OR, 50W

DX Example: 569, Yuri, UA, 100W

- Scoring: Points for C2C awards are accrued as follows:

1. 1 point for each club worked on each band, once per band.

2. For the first QSO with any club, you accrue one multiplier point.

3. To calculate your final score, multiply the total number of C2C club QSOs times your multiplier points.

Examples:

1. You had 20 club QSOs total. Those 20 QSOs were with 12 of the clubs (remember that only one club QSO per band counts towards your total). Thus, your final score is your multiplier, 12, times the total QSOs, 20 = $12 \times 20 = 240$ C2C points. 12 clubs qualifies for the Bronze C2C Certificate.

2. You worked 15 clubs. 10 of those clubs you worked on one band, 5 you worked on 2 bands. Your total QSOs are $10 + (5 \times 2) = 20$ QSOs. Since you worked 15 clubs total, your final score is $15 \times 20 = 300$ C2C points. 15 clubs qualifies for the Silver C2C Certificate.

3. You worked 25 clubs on just one of the 5 bands. You worked the same 20 clubs once more each, but on one or more of the other 4 bands. Your multiplier is then 25 (for 25 unique clubs) and you have 45 club QSOs total. Your final score is then 25 times 45 = 1125 C2C points. 25 clubs qualifies for the Gold C2C Certificate.

In summary

1. Your first QSO with a club counts 1 point for your multiplier and 1 point for your total QSO count. Your total multiplier points cannot exceed the number of clubs that are on the air.

2. You get 1 point toward your total QSO count for the same club each time you work it on one of the other 4 bands.

3. Your multiplier alone determines which certificate you qualify for.

4. You multiply all club QSOs times your multiplier for your total C2C points.

Club operators, please note this special rule: Club operators count any exchange with another club to your club and personal C2C QSO count. Example: If you are using your club's call and are called by another club, both club operators count C2C points for their club and themselves without the operators using their own home calls in the QSO. This rule is intended to reward our club volunteer ops without the need for confusing "double-call QSOs" or separate QSOs while you are

pounding brass on behalf of your club.

CAVEAT: The home call points in this example only count toward the operator's Coast to Coast point count and can not be used for FISTS Awards (e.g. Century), since the home calls were not actually exchanged.

Please e-mail your scores to fistsc2c@yahoo.com or by snail mail to: Paul Beringer, 4702 200th St SE, Bothell, WA 98012

Please send scores ONLY to the above address.
73 Paul NG7Z C2C coordinator

Stan, K4UK, created this little quiz to test your Morse savvy...email your answers to him at k4uk@rev.net!

The Morse Quiz

Now we all know the "standard" punctuation marks and special signals used in Morse Code:

Period (.) ● — — — ● — — — ● — — —
Comma (,) — — — — — ● ● — — — — —
Question Mark (?) ● ● — — — — — ● ●
End of Message ● — — — ● — — — ●

End of Transmission: ● ● ● — — — ● — — —

Break: — — — ● ● — — — ● — — —

So here is a little quiz for the less frequently used punctuation marks and special signals:

- 1: — — — ● ● ● — — —
- 2: — — — ● ● — — — ●
- 3: ● ● ● — — — ●
- 4: ● — — — ● ● ●
- 5: — — — ● ● ● ● — — —
- 6: — — — ● — — — ● — — —
- 7: — — — — — ● ● ●
- 8: ● — — — — — — — — — ●
- 9: ● ● — — — — — ● — — —
- 10: — — — ● — — — — — — — — —

Praise for Schurr & Elecraft

FISTS is really a great organization. I even went to Morse Express here in Denver (N1FN, Marshall) and bought a Schurr Profi 2 key. His website is www.morsex.com, and well worth the visit. Marshall is the exclusive U.S. dealer for Schurr keys so, with Marshall here in Denver and me being a member of the Colorado QRP Club (www.cqc.org), it was only a matter of time before I gave in to the lure of a Schurr key. The Profi 2 really is a work of art; a one-time only lifetime purchase. Really makes CW fun!

I recently built a Elecraft KX1 rig and added 30 meters and the auto-tune unit. What a QRP rig! It is simply amazing how it performs and what is built into that rig. If you ever want to try one, by all means get it. 73, Rex Gossett, WI6T

Praise for FISTS

Enclosed is my renewal - Best club I ever joined! God Bless you all. Rose K8VFR #5602

Thanks A Million

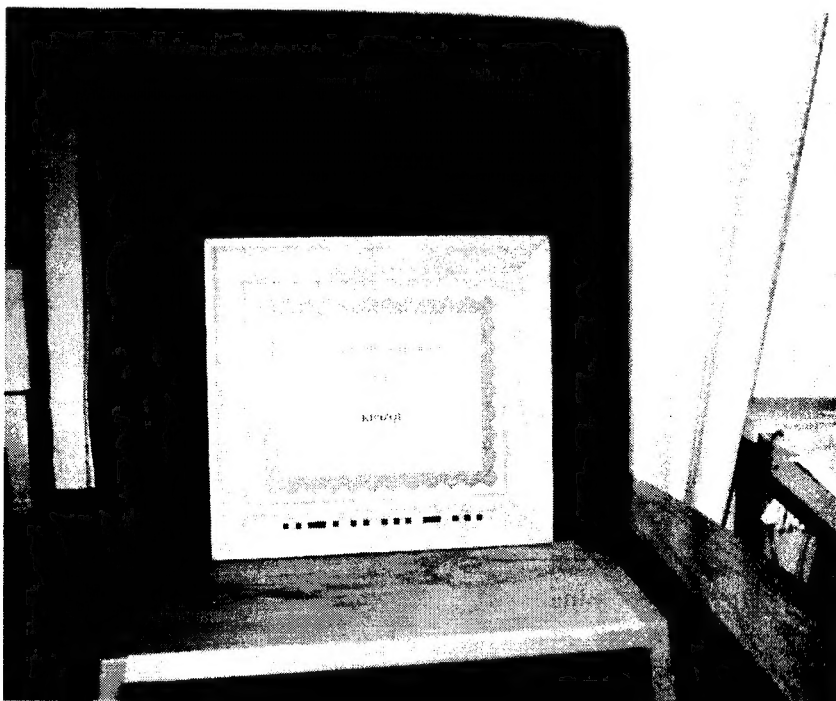
Nancy, Thank you SO MUCH for the amateur radio license renewal information I had asked for. You truly went beyond the call of duty. FISTS is a great club to belong to. I try to inspire other amateurs that I talk with on the radio to join. Thanks a million. I send a million dollar bill to each of my QSO/contacts, they are worth a million. KA9OPF

A Classy Certificate Deserves a Classy Frame

Brian Erwin, KC9FAV, sent this photo of a frame his father, Duane Erwin, KB9ZQU, #11612, made for his FISTS membership certificate. KB9ZQU is a woodworker as a hobby and makes some very nice things out of wood. He like to combine woods for color and presentation.

Brian writes, "The FISTS at the bottom is walnut and the frame is oak. What he did was made a strip and glued each dot/dash through the whole piece and then glued the piece together and made the bottom of the frame out of that piece.

He also made the little stool that the frame is sitting on, as well as the chair. It is a Morris chair."



The Good Old Days?

I started hamming as a kid, was really lucky to have a friend, Bruce (WOEOX) that knew a great deal more than I did and had a real Ham shack, complete with an old kitchen table for a work bench.

Bruce spent many hours sending code to me, I don't think anyone ever had as hard a time as I did learning the code. But at last I was ready, made the trip downtown to the Federal Building and up to the 32nd floor where a dour old woman handed me an application form. The rest was mostly a blur, the examiner gave us pencils, paper, made a short speech and started the code machine. I started to copy, was that an X? I wasn't good with Xs, by then several words had gone by, wait, I see a word....house, I printed some more letters and then the code stopped. The examiner picked up my paper and shook his head; I was not to be a HAM, at least not on that day.

The next time wasn't a lot better, but on the third try he gave us a few moments to kind of fill in the blanks and handed out the exam packets. What would cause the plate current meter to vary with 100% modulation? Draw a diagram of a triode output stage, showing plate neutralization. This was easy stuff. In nothing flat the papers had been graded and I had passed. Some five weeks later I had my ticket.

I had already built (and used) my 6L6 transmitter and had a two tube regenerative receiver but now I had a call sign. Bruce, in the meantime, had found an electric drill at a second hand store which he purchased for a mere 25 cents. Until this point our drilling had to be done with one of those 'egg beater' type Yankee drills, not too bad with wood but almost impossible with metal.

The drill didn't work, what do you expect for a quarter, we found the switch was bad. No big deal, a piece of stranded hook-up wire and the American Beauty iron and the drill worked. I had a large assortment of bits as my uncle worked for Westinghouse and brought home dull drill bits that he had forgotten to turn in at the end of the shift. We were now in the 'big time'; plug in, drill hole, unplug drill and admire. Bruce set to work on a 160/10 meter rig with a class B modulator and I

started on a Superhet with an RF stage.

Time passed and we tried even bigger things. I think Bruce was 17 when he started on a 150 watt rig. Money was still a problem so he was going to use a power transformer from an old TV set. The transformer was one of those thru the chassis types, the core and upper part of the winding on top of the chassis and the bottom of the winding below the chassis. This meant cutting about a 4" square hole in the steel chassis. Yes, steel, aluminum cost more. Now this is done by drilling a series of holes and filing or hacksawing between them. No big deal, just a lot of work.

Bruce was on his second row of holes when it happened. The drill bit ran off the chassis and right into his lap, well not exactly lap, it went between his legs and ended up dead center in his most prized and private part. Now strange as it sounds this must happen often, for at the hospital they had a piece of canvas with a hole in the middle, no doubt made to stick this portion of the anatomy through while they pick out pieces of shorts, jeans, and metal and do a few stitches. Bruce came out okay, and yes he finished the rig and got it on the air.

The next year it was my turn. I was going to install a ball mount on the rear fender of my Chevy for my mobile rig. I drove up in back of Bruce's house and we ran an extension cord out to the drill. Bruce stood in the back doorway, ready to plug the drill in when I was set.

I dug my feet in as best I could, my shoes had leather soles and it had rained the night before and the grass was still wet. I leaned on the drill, sure didn't want it to "run" on my car. "Ready", I yelled. The next thing I knew I was flat on my fanny. It seems the repair job we had done years before wasn't all that good, a piece of the stranded hook-up wire was touching the metal case of the drill. Bruce assured me that he knew which way he had plugged the cord in and all he had to do was turn it over and it would be ok. Guess so cause we got the mobile antenna on with no more trouble. Here it is 50 some years later and Bruce and I are still playing radio together. We don't do as much building as we used to, but we still get together on ten now and then. 73 John WOLHU

QRP with K3WWP

John Shannon K3WWP

Because Issue 4 was the photopage issue, and because QRP with K3WWP was not printed in Issue 5 due to an Email "blip" and because Issue 6 was devoted to the FCC NPRM, QRP with K3WWP has not been in the Keynote for a while.

I apologize to John's loyal readers and to John; we really do appreciate his dedication to getting the column in each issue.. Nancy WZ8C

I did something in ham radio recently that I had never done before, and I'd like to tell you about it.

Although I have operated portable from an apartment I had in Pittsburgh when I worked there, and also from my cousin's house here in Kittanning for the CQWW DX test a couple years ago, I had never really set up and operated a true portable station. All that changed Memorial Day weekend.

A few weeks ago Tom, KB3LFC asked me if I wanted to set up a portable station with him for the ARCI Hoot Owl sprint. It sounded like something different to do, so I agreed.

A couple of days before the sprint, Tom's wife JoAnne drove us out to the site that was located on Tom's property. The operation was to take place from a remote location, and we both agreed this was definitely remote.

The grass was quite

grown up to around 18-24 inches, and we took along a mower to cut out an area to set up our operating tent. Once Tom used his voodoo magic to help JoAnne get the old mower started, I cut out an area about 20' X 20' in a small clearing in the woods. And hey, I only stalled the mower once in that tall grass.

We went ahead and erected the random wire we would use for 80M. I tied a rock to the end of the wire and tried throwing it up into a tree, but the wire got caught in the still high grass where I was throwing from, the rock came off, and the wire fell short on the first throw. We then found a short length of a heavy tree branch and tied that to the end of the wire. That made a more secure connection than the rock, and Tom held the wire free from the tall grass as I tried again.

A couple more throws and the end of the wire was up in the tree and fastened off. We temporarily tied off the other end near the operating site, and proceeded to pound in our 4-foot ground rod. That went without incident. That concluded our setup for that day. The other antennas we would put up on the day of the sprint itself.

Around 5 PM on the Sunday of the contest, we packed all the stuff in the car, and JoAnne drove us back to the site. Tom, JoAnne, their two sons Ariel and Ethan, and I carried the equipment a couple hundred yards to the clearing and started setting up.

The first step proved to be a real challenge. Our tent came in approximately 3 dozen pieces of alu-

minum tubing, a half dozen plastic angle brackets, the large covering that went over the frame, and worst of all - an instruction manual whose pages had become stuck together and now resembled a piece of stiff cardboard. It was impossible to get the pages apart, so we had to proceed by guesswork what piece went where. After quite a while figuring out all the possible combinations we finally found one that worked, put the covering on the frame, and raised it into position. By the way, a week after the event Tom told me he had just gotten another copy of the manual and he said we weren't even close to setting up the tent correctly. But gee it worked for us so I guess that was the bottom line.

After that ordeal, we had about an hour until the contest got started, and still had to get our 20M and 40M antennas erected. Both were dipoles, so we looked for two properly spaced trees for each. When we found a likely combination, we tied a rope to an old claw hammer that would be the throwing weight this time. After a few attempts, I got the rope up over a suitable branch, and we pulled the 20M antenna into position. That procedure was repeated for the other end of the 20M dipole.

We hooked up the ground wire to our tuners and set up the rest of our two stations. I used my friend KB3BFQ's QRP+ and an old homebrew tuner and SWR meter I built years ago. Tom used his HW-9 and MFJ tuner and SWR meter.

The CQWW WPX contest was still going on and I wanted to see if I could catch some 20M DX to see how the station was working. That's when the problem surfaced. Although the QRP+ was showing 5 watts output on its meter, my SWR/Power meter on the tuner was only

showing less than two watts. I could get the SWR down to near 1:1, but the stations I was calling were not hearing me at all, and they were just booming in. I knew I should be able to work them easily, but I wasn't.

It was getting close to contest time now, and we still had to get the 40M dipole up. After a few unsuccessful attempts and relocations, we achieved that goal.

Just about then, JoAnne came back with our supper. Thanks JoAnne. We ate our hamburger, potato salad, and vegetable salad, then got into the contest. That part of the story will have to wait till next issue as I hate to ramble on and use up too much of the space in the Keynote.

Remember to visit my web site for much more QRP/CW info as well as info on the North American QRP CW Club. Till part 2 of this story next issue, 73. -30-

Since this is a "combo" issue, here is the continuation of John's QRP column.

QRP with K3WWP

John Shannon, K3WWP

Tom started on 80M, and I on 40M. I was still having the same problem with the power output, and wasn't sure what was going on. I kept calling stations without success. Finally after a half-hour, I started making QSO's. I worked a couple S&P, then called CQ. My meter started getting even flakier now, and after working Jim, W1PID who told me I was chirping and jumping in frequency, I knew for sure something wasn't right.

I had assumed that the car battery I was using was providing the proper voltage to the rig since the power meter on the QRP+ was showing 5 watts output. However I was really putting out only a watt or so of a very chirpy unstable signal. No wonder I wasn't being heard at all or only weakly. At an hour and a half into the test, I had only 7 QSO's despite hearing a multitude of stations.

Tom had two gel cells, and told me to try the spare one on the QRP+. I did and immediately the results were better. Now my tuner was showing the full 5 watts output. I got the SWR down to 1.3:1 or so, and soon was working stations with ease. The next 16 minutes brought as many QSO's as I had in the first 82 minutes.

Apparently Tom's car battery that I was using was not putting out its full voltage despite seemingly being fully charged. The next time I use a battery, I definitely will make sure of its voltage. Also I will believe my tuner meter rather than the one on the rig.

All in all it was a learning experience, and a fun one as well. I wound up with 40 QSO's in 19 states plus Ontario. The most distant QSO was with Randy, K7TQ in Idaho. I stayed on 40M all the time, and Tom stayed on 80M so we both will be single band entrants. I believe Tom wound up with 17 QSO's on 80M. He is going to write his own story and post it on the NAQCC web site,

so I won't say more about his efforts here. However I will say thanks Tom for getting me into doing some real portable work. I truly enjoyed it. I wound up with a First Place Pennsylvania certificate (including all-band entrants) for my efforts so it was also a rewarding experience. JoAnne came and picked us up just after Midnight.

After we extinguished the lantern, we finished tearing down by flashlight. I kidded Tom that we should have something like miner's caps to help us. Holding a flashlight with one hand and working with the other when you really needed two hands to work wasn't easy. We did finish though and packed the stuff into the car and headed home. It was interesting getting the tent into the car. I'm always amazed how small something like that is when it's in its original package, and how big it becomes once it has been opened.

It's almost impossible to ever get it back to that original small packaged size.

A couple days after the sprint I learned something from Larry, W2LJ that I have always suspected. Larry said my signals in the Sprint were the strongest he's ever heard from me. So I do lose something by living down here in the valley. The Sprint was operated from the top of one of the hills that surround Kittanning.

If you, as it was with me, have

never operated truly portable, I'd suggest giving it a try. I'm sure you'll enjoy it as much as I did.

I'm doing some minor redesign work on my web site at <http://home.alltel.net/johnshan/including-some-updated-pictures-of-my-station-and-my-antennas>. A lot of you have asked about my random wire, so I now have much more detailed pictures to describe it more clearly.

Hopefully by the time you are reading this, those pictures will be on-line.

There are a couple of anniversaries to mention here. My web site became 9 years old on September 8 and is now beginning its 10th year of promoting the use of Morse Code on the ham bands.

The North American QRP CW Club will be one year old on October 15. Tom - KB3LFC, Larry - W2LJ, and I are proud that we reached the 1,000 member level on September 11 at the Butler, PA hamfest when Mike - KD0AR joined up. I suspect that 1,000 members in just 11 months is one of the fastest starts any club has ever gotten off to, and it shows that CW is still a very popular mode on the ham bands, and can be very efficient even with a minimal QRP setup. The NAQCC web site is at <http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/>. Come visit and join up if you haven't already.

Lifetime membership is now, and always will be completely FREE.

Till next column, great keying to you. 73 -30-

Observations from a New Ham

I've been on the air now for a few months now, and believe me, I'm having a ball! As a guy who always wanted to do amateur radio, at the age of 62 and retired, I finally said "its now or never". I work cw exclusively for two reasons. First, I love cw; and second, I love cw. I have recently earned the coveted Century Club award and proudly display my "cc" for all to hear. Although I just installed an 80-10 meter Carolina Windom, I am still relegated to the use my 20 meter dipole due to my present shack location. Soon, I plan to move to the 2nd floor of my work shop "under the Windom".

In my voracious search for cw contacts on 20 meters (Times Square at midday), I have made a few observations that could (in my tyro brain, at least) create a more perfect cw world for new ops.

1. Except for important items, if the other op doesn't ask you to, don't repeat it. For example, its fine to repeat your name, but *don't* repeat the word "name". Same goes for RST and QTH.

2. If the other op gives you an RST of 599, assume that he can hear you.

3. I,m as guilty as anyone, so I probably should take my own advice on this one. Even when the band is good, avoid protracted transmissions. I have sent "KN" on several occasions to find the other op had been swallowed up in the Abyss(QSB). With short to medium-length transmissions, you can at least mutually observe the worsening conditions and decide to "get out of Dodge".

4. Unless you are familiar with the other op, if your speed is faster than his, ask him if he would like you to slow down. Or better yet, back off the pedal a little. Often, a short qso is the result of the slow guy quietly throwing in the towel.

5. If you're veeerrry slow (a relative term) compared to the other guy, don't expect him to stick around too long. That's human nature. Sort of like a boring conversation at a cocktail party. Just make up your mind to have many, short qsos.

6. To the faster ops — Answer the slow cq's. How else will the 10 wpm tyro grow to be a 25 wpm impresario? Besides, you *don't* have to stick around for a 20 minute ragchew!

7. Finally, being new ops, we will make mistakes. If we step on someone's toes, we should say "sri" and then move on — hiding behind anonymity diminishes us all.

Hp to cu sn
Milt - K4OSO

FISTS Summer Sprint, 2005 Results

Hello fellow FISTS!

First off I'd like to welcome Brian, KC9FAV to CW and FISTS. This was his first Sprint.

Congrats Brian! Also welcome to Sprint first timer, Steve, KB8SCI.

Conditions this Sprint were very BAD, thanks to the die hards who hung in there!

I got a note from Murray, K4MHM about the Summer 04 Sprint. It seems I mistyped his call as K4MNM.

I'll get that changed. Thanks Murray for the heads up!

73

Dan, N8IE Sprint Manager FISTS #4985

QRO Category

<i>Call</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>FISTS#</i>	<i>St</i>	<i>Score</i>
K4IA	Buck	6702	VA	19008
K7NM	Lee	8233	UT	15872
K7CS	Don	9164	VA	15510
WM4Q	Robert	7654	TN	14208
WB0PYF	Ray	7986	MO	12369
K4OSO	Milton	11383	VA	12180
W9IL	Lou	11187	IL	9688
K8CI	Dick	5270	OH	8343
N5DY	Jack	11105	OK	8294
WG7Y	Robert	N/A	WY	7600
W6RK	Risto	10908	CA	6723
KA9F	John	8069	IN	6615
KC8BYF	Jim	4614	OH	5280
AI4JW	Jason	10948	VA	4944
K8VFR	Rosemarie	5602	MI	4380
N3RSD	Frank	2411	DE	4186
W4DON	Donald	3936	NC	4011
W4NBS	Tom	6121	AL	3705
KG2GL	Tony	5947	NJ	3204
W3NGO	Richard	4016	PA	2550
K4UK	Stan	2934	VA	2232
WB4HUL	Sidney	3540	VA	2055
AC5ZQ	Buddy	6820	TX	2016
W9SJW	John	10004	IL	1830
KD5MJJ	Hank	8180	TX	1632
N3XL	Bill	9921	MD	1632
K9XL	Ray	8469	CT	1575
WB4FSF	Bonnie	2975	FL	1568

(continued on next page)

<i>Call</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>FISTS#</i>	<i>St</i>	<i>Score</i>
K0LWV	Larry	2589	MO	1455
KU8T	Thomas	10163	IN	1430
W9LD	Dave	6764	IL	1392
KS0M	Dick	3067	MO	1365
VE3VMP	Mike	10335	ON	1300
AE2L	Joshua	1912	NC	1300
N6NAX	Donald	8884	AZ	1230
W9INA	Maynard	10919	IN	1164
VA2SVP	Guy	7048	QC	1034
AA3II	Jerry	9746	PA	984
W4KPG	Eric	10774	FL	825
W9KMP	Kenneth	4626	IL	780
KG9LZ	Tom	5769	IL	585
KD5JOM	Robert	7459	MS	520
KC9FAV	Brian	11437	IL	450
K9LCK	James	5473	WI	385
K8LEN	Patrick	1494	IN	350
KI4GUP	Barry	11374	NC	240
KC8YFG	Bruce	10521	MI	224
K4MHM	Murray	N/A	NC	200
KB8SCI	Steve	7398	OH	192
N2JJF	Denis	10441	NJ	180
W2GIW	Ken	N/A	NJ	150
KI4IDK	Richard	11585	NC	20

Club Category

<i>Call</i>	<i>Club</i>	<i>FISTS#</i>	<i>ST</i>	<i>Score</i>
W8EOC	Medina 2 Meter Group	10250	OH	25623
W1FFF	Southwestern N.H. FISTS Club	11250	NH	2040

QRP Category

<i>Call</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>FISTS#</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Score</i>
K4YKI	Norman	2166	KY	2754
K5NLR	Ray	10357	AR	1495
WA2BQI	Bud	2009	NY	1440
W9UQB	Mike	3687	AZ	570
K2NPN	Phil	1988	NY	160
KA5HZV	Ron	6259	TX	108
K1RV	Harold	7012	MA	45

Summer Sprint Soapbox

AA3II, Jerry, PA FISTS #9746

I had fun, and picked up a couple of entries for my WAS. My Shack setup and I have something in common. We talk pretty loud, but don't hear too good.

AC5ZQ, Buddy, TX FISTS #6820

First thing I do on the next contest is make sure my computer's clock has the correct time! I got a late start but I at least got my CW fix. Band conditions weren't the best. 40M & 20M were pretty crowded so I just parked myself on 15M and waited for band openings. Thanks to all of my contacts for a relaxing contest. C U dwn the log agn soon.

AI4JW, Jason, VA FISTS #10948

Wonderful sprint! Spent almost all of my time of 40m. Checked 15m from time to time, but only worked one station there Looking forward to the fall sprint!

K1RV, Harold, MA FISTS #7012

Sorry, only had a few minutes for QRP effort!

K4UK, Stan, VA FISTS #2934

Took time out from building a wall around our new well. Hope the incorrect date in the July issue of QST didn't mislead members into thinking the Sprint was to run on Sunday, July 10 instead of Saturday, July 9. Very little activity here on the higher bands, and we were competing with the IARU World Championships. Look forward to the Fall Sprint, though probably have to contend with the heavy participation in the PA QSO Party.

K8CI, Dick, OH FISTS #5270

Not the best of band conditions.

KS0M, Dick, MO FISTS #3067

I lost two hours due to a 20 over S9 noise. It wiped out everything. I always enjoy the FISTS Sprints and will try to make more Q's in the Fall Sprint. I worked 40 meters only as the IARU contest took over the other bands.

W4DON, Donald, NC FISTS #3936

IARU Contest caused problems at times.

W6RK, Risto, CA FISTS #10908

Fun as usual

W9IL, Lou, IL FISTS #11187

Conditions were not the greatest, and competition from the IARU contest on the higher bands was fierce! The Fall Sprint will hopefully be better, but it was fun anyway.

WB0PYF, Ray, MO FISTS #7986

Boy, conditions were rough but had lots of fun. Hope to see everyone in the fall sprint.

WG7Y, Robert, WY No FISTS number
My first FISTS Sprint

KG9LZ, Tom, IL FISTS #5769
Summer Sprint conflicted with IARU HF World Championship.

VE3VMP, Mike, ON FISTS #10335
Tnx.

W9LD, Dave, IL FISTS #6764
One of the most enjoyable contests ever. I just participated for fun! (and collect some numbers)

K7Cs, Don, VA FISTS #9164
Tried computer logging this time. A bit easier.

WA2BQI, Bud, NY FISTS #2009
Too many contests this weekend. 15 meter dead, 20 meter other tests going on. Condx poor! 40 meter QRN level but best band this time for FISTS Sprint! Had fun.

K8LEN, Patrick, IN FISTS #1494
Just had a short time (1 hour) but was fun, FISTS everywhere.

W2GIW, Ken, NJ No FISTS #
First time. Thought I would give it a shot as time was limited. Thanks!

K8VFR, Rosemarie, MI FISTS #5602
These Sprints are by far the nicest contests! Everyone is so nice and polite! We are family!

WB4FSF, Bonnie, FL FISTS #2975 It was fun but kind of confusing since there was another contest going on also.

N6NAX, Donald, AZ FISTS #8884 The band started going to pot here soon after the contest started. My final few QSO's were hard to pull out. But I had fun.

W1FFF, Bob, NH FISTS #11250 With another contest going on, it was tough to find band space. These are the only contest I enter (FISTS SPRINTS) they do not promote poor operation and max power, they promote fun. I had a great time.

Bob, W1FFF/K1QT

WB4HUL, Sidney, VA FISTS #3540
Missed the first hour but had a blast anyway! Looking forward to the next one.

KA5HZV, Ron, TX FISTS #6259
Was great fun. I used my K-1 Elecraft @ 5W to an inverted Vee. Not much of a contester, but I'm learning. Thanks a bunch to all at FISTS HQ.

K4IA, Buck, VA FISTS #6702

15 was open but no activity - just one or two stations. Suggest everyone check the higher bands on the hour. Lots of noise here. Fun as always!

K4YKI, Norman, KY FISTS #2166

Stuck it out on 40 this time. Seemed the thing to do. Band condx pretty fair, just rapid QSB to keep us on our toes. Enjoyable as usual.

K7NM, Lee, UT FISTS #8233

Great exercise despite a conflicting contest. Good to work all the great FISTS members. Fun to look you up in the keynote and look at pictures of who I worked!

KD5MJJ, Hank, TX FISTS #8180

Good propagation on 20 meters. Too many FISTS Sprinters on vacation during July 05 Sprint! Good fun.

K5NLR, Ray, AR FISTS #10357

Really hard conditions, especially for a QRP station with Zepp antenna in mid-US. However, great ops and chance for fellowship. 72/73 to all!

K9LCK, James, WI FISTS #5473

Good condx. Thanks to many courteous operators.

K4OSO, Milton, VA FISTS #11383

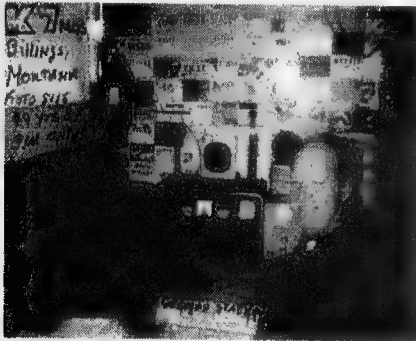
Other contest(s) made for tuff going!

KI4GUP, Barry, NC FISTS #11374

I had hoped to double my QSO total from the Spring Sprint but was only able to operate less than 1 1/2 hours due to family obligations. My copy speed is improving (now about 12wpm) so maybe in the fall...at least during this Sprint I was able to add a few FISTS numbers toward earning my Century Certificate!

Friends I've Never Met

A few nights ago I was tuning around on 20 meters in search of DX. The CY9DH operation was in full swing but I had already worked them on 20 so I was tuning away from the pile-up when it happened.



I was visited by that magic which travels via electromagnetic waves. I think it's a good thing that it doesn't happen often, else we might not appreciate it as much.

Let me explain...

Sometimes when you make a contact via ham radio it's very special. It goes beyond just an entry in the logbook or another QSL card. It's when you make a real connection with the operator at the other end. After a very enjoyable QSO, you have made a friend.

A friend that you have never met...

K7MOS was calling CQ on 14.042 when I answered his call. It turns out that Charles was in Billings, Montana. After exchanging the usual pleasantries we chatted for awhile, mostly

about his old HeathKit Apache. Charles has used it since 1958. A year before I was even born! A QSO like that always ends quicker than you want it to and before long we were exchanging FISTS club numbers along with best wishes and hopes for another such visit.

Before closing down the shack that night I had a few QSL cards to take care of and so I made one out for Charles that very night. I dropped it in the mailbox the next day on the way to work and didn't think much more about it.

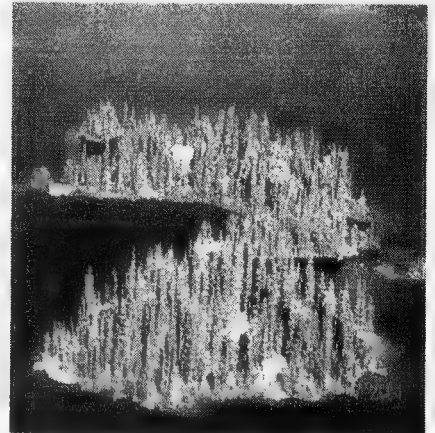
But a few days later I was very pleasantly surprised to receive these two photos from K7MOS. One is a terrific snapshot of Charles in his shack. He had turned that card into a QSL for our contact. Along with it, he included one of him having just taken a 5.5 lbs rainbow trout from a mountain lake at 10,500 feet elevation! What a warm gesture from my new friend that I've never met.



Then there was the time that I was working a DL on 10 meters on an early Saturday morning. At the end of that QSO I was called by Wayne, VE4WR who was oper-

ating mobile from a lonely highway in Manitoba. We enjoyed several exchanges with Wayne telling me how desolate the road was at that location. He hadn't even seen another vehicle for miles. Then suddenly he told me that he needed to QRT because he was being pulled over by a police car.

He never did return to the frequency and I was hopeful that he made it home with no problem. I found an email address for him and sent him a quick note to see if he had indeed made it home safely. I received this reply from him, along with the tremendous photos that you see here:



Very nice to hear from you. I should really have returned to that frequency and advised you that the RCMP officer turned out to be the son of one of my friends here in Manitoba. His "wagging" the red lights was a short-hand way of saying "hello". Up in that remote neck of the woods, you wave or whatever, simply to acknowledge that all's well. By the way, Manitoba's automobile license plates bear the motto "Friendly Manitoba"... which says it all.

Attached to this memo are a few jpegs that I thought you might enjoy. We really do live in God's Country! The Lake Trout, when smoked, and the Blueberries when baked into my wife's "kuken" flan - are both "to kill for". On my island (the nearer of the two in the islands digipic) we have a micro-climate and I picked the last of our tomatoes, even though the surrounding region has had several killing frosts. This is an all-time record for my family in that area.

I arrived back at my Winnipeg winter home safe and sound after 8 hours of top-speed driving. Thanks again for keeping me company for part of that time.

him about my mother's illness and now he never fails to ask about her health. His concern is genuine and I really appreciate the common bond that we share. Mike is another friend that I've never met.

This magic spirit of amateur radio isn't unique to North America. In a recent QSO I mentioned to DL1SE that I would soon be making a business trip to Stuttgart. Juergen sent me his home telephone number and told me that he would happily pick me up and show me his shack in southern Germany when I arrive. PY7CPC recently invited me to join him in Recife, Brazil and he

India ... from the elephant and lion country of Rhodesia, from the burning sands of Iraq... We wander the face of this little old world like a bug on an orange."

I could fill many pages with tales of ham operators who have distinguished themselves by being friendly, outgoing, and selfless ambassadors of the world's greatest hobby. These are special people who make amateur radio something to be desired by new generations.

Perhaps if we all followed the example of these folks and many more like them, amateur radio would once again become a significant catalyst for fostering global friendship.

Copyright © 2002 Jeff Davis,
KE9V All Rights Reserved
May Not Be Reproduced in Any
Form Without Written Permission



I was obviously thrilled to find out that Wayne had not only made it home, but he had taken the time to send me these memories of our enjoyable chat one early autumn morning. VE4WR is another friend that I've never met.

Let me tell you about AF4LQ. Mike is a fellow CW operator. We chat about any number of things on the air or via email. I once told

would show me around the city. These are but a few of my many friends I've never met.

In 1940, Clinton B. DeSoto described his friends of the air like this: *"I have radio pals in all sorts of odd corners of the world whose signals come whispering to me through the night ... out of the jungles of the Congo ... from the interior of Dutch Borneo ... from mountain tea estates of Java and*

*Nomadic sailors set adrift,
Faceless names in failing ships,
Endless paths through endless seas,
Sailing through infinities.*

*Two bows brush in darkest night,
Two hands touch in briefest flight,
Two souls meet unwittingly,
Small islands in an aether sea.*

*A lantern lit by dual consent,
A ray of light both never meant,
Small beacon few can understand,
In search of welcome distant land.*

*Two boats joined in single ship
By hearts upon a common trip,
No longer faceless entities,
One island in an aether sea.*

KN0WCW Control Operator Primer

There may be some potential KN0WCW control operators out there who are not just sure about what all may be involved in taking it on. So, thought I would put together a little "primer".

Rig, antenna system, QTH: You do not need a super station with QRO juice to be a KN0WCW operator. Your normal station set up with whatever rig and antenna system you normally use will be just fine. If you are a QRP operator, fine. If you only operate on one or a couple of bands, fine. Operate with what you have and are comfortable with, that is the key.

CW operating speed: Work at your speed. Send at the speed you want to receive at. Your contacts will adjust to you, they want to work you. If, they won't, then you can ask them to QRS. If they won't, sign with them and go on to another contact. Working CW is about communicating. That means both sides need to be able to copy and understand each other.

Operating hints: When you sign up to operate the club call, you have 24 hours of each day you sign up for in which to operate. That does not mean you have to spend every hour at your rig. Work the times most convenient for you. Mornings and evening on bands like 40M and 80M should give you a good starting area. If you are more comfortable in the N/T sub-band portions, work there. Avoid all major contest weekends, regardless of the contest mode. Venture to the bands good for DX, if and when you are comfortable. Work a little away from the FISTS calling frequencies and be sure to listen for others adjacent to you. Some nets work close to our calling frequencies. You can work with another FISTS member, as a team effort. One operates, one logs and you switch off, as it works for you. Also, you can expect to be a bit popular. Lots of FISTS will want to work you. If being the object of a pile up unnerves you, just relax and just concentrate on working one station at a time. The others will wait or catch you another time.

QSO Exchange: You will give your call as KN0WCW/ (call area). This is the call area you are operating from. So, it might be KN0WCW/4 or KN0WCW/8. Make a go-by script card if that helps. Your first exchange might just be RST, your name and your QTH. If the contact is a FISTS member, their return will generally also include their FISTS number. That way you know on your next return to give out the club call numbers. If they do not give their FISTS numbers, you can return with a couple things about FISTS. It is a worldwide club of hams who enjoy working CW. The call you are working is the club call for FISTS USA. Something like that. Of course, you can carry on the QSO with anything you wish from there. It is not a contest, so you can chat as long as you wish. After all, that is part of the fun.

Logging: The FISTS USA website has a log sheet you can download. Or you can use one of your own or a logging program. What works best for you. Just keep in mind that the log you send to the QSL MGR after operating must be legible. Mailed logs can be handwritten, typed or printed off your logging program. Emailed logs can only be in Word, text, Excel or Cabrillo format.

QSL'ing: We make it simple and painless for you to QSL. The club provides you will blank QSL cards. You complete them, and forward them on, or send them back to the QSL MGR and he will forward them. If you cannot fill out the cards, or want the QSL MGR to do them for you, you just send your log and it will be done for you.

Signing up to operate: The FISTS USA web site has a link to the calendar showing open and assigned dates. Pick your day or days and email me with the dates. Try maybe one day or a couple to start with. You have seven total days you can sign up for each calendar year. If you do not have email, just drop me a note with the dates and your phone number, I will call you and get things set up with you. Be sure that your dues are paid up and will be current for any days you request to operate, that is a requirement. And, expect a little delay between your request and confirmation of your operating date(s).

Most important: Operating the club call should be fun. Don't burn yourself out trying to operate for too long at a stretch, if you are not accustomed to it. Be courteous of others on the bands. Be a great ambassador for CW and FISTS. And, did I mention, have FUN!!

I am always an email or phone call away, if you have any questions.

Give operating the club call a try.

"CW is the Fun Mode."

VRY 73 de Karl, KB1DSB KN0WCW Trustee KN0WCW Scheduler

KN0WCW QSL MGR

2176 Drake Road

Bomoseen, VT 05732-9799

802-468-5444 kb1dsb@sover.net

FREQUENCY IS IN USE PLEASE QSY

By: Hector E. Perez NP4FW FIST 2531

Perhaps, some of you folks reading this article have been subjected to the above phrase while trying to use a phone portion of your favorite band. I am sure you have; it has occurred to me too.

When I first came into amateur radio, my Elmer, Methodist Reverend Manny Santiago NP4FE gave me a lecture on good operating procedures.

Among the things he mentioned, I remember him saying: "listen first for a few minutes, tune your radio at dummy load; low power first. When you are ready to transmit, make sure that the frequency is clear. A good rule is to ask if the frequency is in use or either send QRL a couple of times if you are using CW. If nobody answers, then you can go ahead calling CQ."

And so I did.

But what my dear friend many did not mention, was the fact that ... maybe, I was going to find out, just too many unfriendly folks out there. Also, that some areas of the bands "were somehow ... reserved or for their private use only." At least, that is the impression I got not only back on my early days on ham radio but still today. Bands crowded with unfriendly guys and segments "for private use only".

Don't anybody quote me wrong; I will make myself clear.

For some mysterious reason, I have to figure inside my mind, that is people out there, just sitting in front of their radios, relaxing, smoking cigars, drinking coffee, glaring at the morning news, not using the bands at all, not doing any radio at all but, quite ready to "broom" you out of the way from their ... "reserved segments".

Instead of providing newcomers with a warm reception or simply answering a CQ call, these folks are ready to "scare the death" out of them.

The following bitter response to the question "IS THE FREQUENCY IN USE" is still always present today as a menacing threat to most newcomers as well as old timers dusting off their microphones on a comeback.

"Frequency is in use old man; please qsy". Good Lord, I ask myself why do people do this. I have experienced such situation myself while using the phone segments of the bands. I consider this an insult.

But I pay no attention to such an insult any longer. I just politely move away. In no way I

will antagonize with these guys for such a thing; in fact, some of my friends claims that I have it well deserve for using the phone segments and not staying at the CW portions.

Ok guys, "stone" me over.

This is from real living; I have been sitting there in my shack filling up QSL cards, making backups to my logs, or simply monitoring

while doing some cleaning at my shack. My radio turned on; just listening, and not hearing a single soul using the frequency for as long as more than one hour. When ready to have some fun, I have asked (as I always do) if the frequency is in use.

Out of nowhere, like an arrow fired from a distant place, like the legend of the Headless Horseman, there jumps a ghostly creature and cries out laud the ever annoying phrase "yes frequency is in use OM, please QSY"

How dare he I say to myself.

There I sit, glaring at my radio, not knowing what to do, or what to say, totally mad, my eyes blurred. Almost tempted to loose my temper and yell back some profane or mundane (whatever

you want to call it) mouth breaking words and take the pain out of my chest. There I have stood wondering if I should either hammer my radio apart into pieces or break into tears.

Thanks God, I have simply counted from ten to zero, held down my anger and patiently move my dial up or down and start all over again. God made every day a new day.

I give no real credit to such thing now a day but it hurts.

I can understand that people often make skeds with their buddies. I can also understand, that some times, a net is being conducted or simply we hear no sound. Maybe my 100% directional antenna is so ... directional (to say so) that will not allow me to hear the nearby action. I can also understand that when people are "new", they commit mistakes. Even oldies like me commit mistakes. One could jump (without knowing) into an unwanted tug of war with this people but it would be senseless. But no, that's not the case; a person, new or old does not deserve that kind of a treatment, no sir.

After so many years around on amateur radio I have gotten to the conclusion that this impolite response is produced for just one simple reason: **LACK OF GOOD SOPORTMANSHIP.**

It's the wrong kind of people using a wrong approach. It's the wrong attitude to other folks new or old that shows up to use the frequency willing to either make a new friend, a new country or simply test a new radio or antenna. Isn't that what amateur radio is all about?

Maybe is the same kind of folks that think they really have "legal ownership" or property title to the ham bands or on the worst case, irked at the presence of a ... specific call signs, nationality, race or even clubs they might dislike.

It is not for me; I abandoned the phone portions of the band years ago and changed for CW. It is for the newcomers. At the CW portions of the bands, you don't see this kind of elbowing. But once in a while, people also would like to make use of the phone areas to call some CQ CQ DX. After all, a microphone was enclosed with the purchase of my TS-570 so I have to use it no?.

I mean, it's not fair; not on an environment full of nets, contest, expeditions, special events, dx windows etc you name it, which also uses lets say reserved space.

I think, everybody within the ham community must be patience enough to share the space with others as long as they are there.

What to do to solve this unfairness? My advice to the new guys is to simply, keep on with the good practice of asking if frequency is in use. Continue to do the best for ham radio, keep following good operating procedures and avoid entering in senseless quarrel if you encounter this type of situation.

All of us came into this wonderful hobby to enjoy, to have fun, to make new friends, to serve the community during emergency situations and not to loose our temper entering a senseless argument with someone who probably will hide his true identity, his call sign or that simply has no manners at all.

So next time you ask, "if the frequency is in use" and get the ugly response from the Headless Horseman just take a deep breath, count to ten, move over and start again.

What is going to happen now that efforts are under way to cut CW out? What will happen when the expected results from the elimination of the CW mode will bring zillions of new hams? Time will tell.

For now ... support CW

Flying Pigs and NAQCC Sprint Operating Events

Although FISTS Sprints are, of course, our favorite contests, The Flying Pigs and NAQCC also have fun Sprints that are open to FISTS members. These Sprints are CW only and although both these groups are QRP clubs, non-QRP stations have been known to participate; but QRP operation is encouraged. If you have questions, please direct them to the contact listed at the end of the description.

The Flying Pigs "**Run For The Bacon**" - schedule through 2006

October 16, 2005 (October 17, 2005 UTC)	November 20, 2005 (November 21, 2005 UTC and so on)	
December 18, 2005	January 15, 2006	February 19, 2006
March 19, 2006	April 16, 2006	May 21, 2006
June 18, 2006	July 16, 2006	August 20, 2006
September 17, 2006	October 15, 2006	
November 19, 2006	December 17, 2006	

These are all Sundays; and the contest always runs from 9:00 to 11:00 PM Eastern time all year long (UTC time changes accordingly to whether it's Standard time or Daylight Savings time)

Here are the rules in a nutshell:

Work stations once per band CW only Categories: All bands or Single band Exchange: RST, SPC (State/Province/Country), FP# (non-members send power) QSO Points: Member = 3 points, Member different continent = 5 points, non member = 1 point Multipliers: S/P/C total for all bands more than 50 members worked = X 2 Power: QRP only (qrp defined as 5 watts or less) Final Score: (Total QSO points) * (total S/P/C) * 2 (if 50 plus members worked)

Suggested Frequencies CW: 1812, 3562, 7044, 14062, 21062, 27185, 28062 There is an Autolog reporting system and snail mail address for logs can be found at: <http://www.fqgrp.com/fqqrprun.html>

NAQCC Sprints:

In odd numbered months (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov) the sprint will be on the third Wednesday of the month at 8:30-10:30 PM ES(D)T which will be Thursday 0030-0230 UTC or 0130-0330 UTC.

In even numbered months (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) the sprint will be on the second Tuesday of the month at 8:30-10:30 PM ES(D)T which will be Wednesday 0030-0230 UTC or 0130-0330 UTC.

Here's the schedule through next June:

Nov 2005 - 3rd Wednesday 16th EST 08:30-10:30 (Thursday 17th 0130-0330Z)

Dec 2005 - 2nd Tuesday 13th EST 08:30-10:30 (Wednesday 14th 0130-0330Z)

Jan 2006 - 3rd Wednesday 18th EST 08:30-10:30 (Thursday 19th 0130-0330Z)

Feb 2006 - 2nd Tuesday 14th EST 08:30-10:30 (Wednesday 15th 0130-0330Z)

Mar 2006 - 3rd Wednesday 15th EST 08:30-10:30 (Thursday 16th 0130-0330Z)

Apr 2006 - 2nd Tuesday 11th EDT 08:30-10:30 (Wednesday 12th 0030-0230Z)

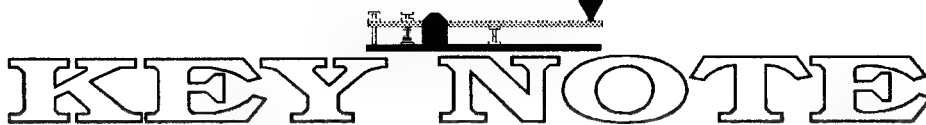
May 2006 - 3rd Wednesday 17th EDT 08:30-10:30 (Thursday 18th 0030-0230Z)

Jun 2006 - 2nd Tuesday 13th EDT 08:30-10:30 (Wednesday 14th 0030-0230Z)

and so on

The general NAQCC Sprint rules can be found at: <http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprintrules.html>

International Morse Preservation Society



Sec: E. (Geo) Longden, G3ZQS. 119 Cemetery Rd., DARWEN, BB3 2LZ, England. 01254-703948

<http://www.fists.co.uk>

E-Mail HQ: fist1@btinternet.com webmaster: webmaster@asel.demon.co.uk

OFFICES

QSL Manager: M0AVW

32 Woodford Walk, Harewood Park, TS17 0LT

PRO: G4YLB. J.A. Welsh

3 Minster Cresc, DARWEN, BB3 3PY

CONTEST MANAGER: M0BPT

38 Wheatley St, W. Bromwich, B70 9TJ

COMMITTEE

Chairman

Vice Chairman

P.R.O.

Secretary

G4XHZ

G4YLB

G4YLB

G3ZQS

Pse keep watch on all Novice allocations

Recommended calling QRGs:

3.558, 7028, 14.058, 21.058, 28.058

AWARDS

e-mail apps/logs to Dennis, K6DF:

<fistsawards@comcast.net>

written logs to HQ. No charges and no return envelope required.

GREETINGS

Hi people.

Sorry to be a miserable old git but despite many requests and reminders, I am still getting subs with NO indication of who they are from. It severely interrupts the flow of what I am doing when I have to stop and play Sherlock Holmes! Here at HQ, every record is ordered on CALLSIGN for preference.

Although I have been able to keep the cost of QSLs down, the Post Office have not been so obliging and for some months now they have been charging well in excess of £1.00 for 200 cards within the UK. Postal costs for just 100 cards has leaped up to over 80 pence. Hate to tell you what they charge for Europe and DX. FISTS subs etc are about the only things that have remained stable (and that from 1987) so I guess we can claim to be unique in this respect at least. Hi.

SILENT KEY

A telephone call from his widow registers the passing of Brian, G4WYG. No further details unfortunately as I had a visitor at the time so neglected to ask for full info and the phone number in the database is incorrect.

CONTEST MANAGER

The result of a little fishing around by Chuck, M0AVW, was a telephone call from M0BPT who will be initiating some dialogue with M5AGL via email

EUCW QRS RESULTS

CALL.	CLUB.	Points.
CLASS A.		
1 G4LHI	FISTS	21754
2 DL2FCA	AGCW	15093
3 IK2RMZ	AGCW	7350
CLASS B.		
1 RW3AI	G-QRP	12765
2 HB9OU	HTC	1320
3 OK1FVD	OK-QRP-C	1272
CLASS C		
1 UA3AAP	NONE	4

There were no returns for Class D

Most readable fist

Congratulations to RW3AI who headed DL2CFA(2), G4LHI(2), M0DRK(2) and M5ABN(2) with an impressive collection of 5 nominations. Certificates for the winner, placed and most readable fist will be sent asap. Apologies for the delay but I hope my health will be taken into the equation. Half an hour on the keyboard is frequently half an hour too much. Hi.

CHANGE OF CALL

Albert, 2E0TDU has up-graded and now becomes M0TDU but he has also conducted a minor QSY to California where his call is preceded by W6/.

IS YOUR EMAIL ADR UP TO DATE?

The web-page was non-functional at the time so after a while I made a phone call to Andy (G0JLX) which was diverted to his mobile. I then learned that before he had chance to up-date the site, he was obliged to attend his Mother who had been placed into care and to shoulder the burden of getting her financial affairs in order.

The consequence of this was that email Keynotes were sent from my own address book and a fair number of 'bouncers' was reported. If your callsign falls within this list, please send me an email so that I can copy the correct address:

9A3SM, DK1AR, G0AEC, G0IIK, G0HFX, G0USY, G0VZX, M0AYF, G3ROC, G3VDD, G3XLW, G3XYS, G3ZRT, RW3AA, G4ERA, G4KGG, G4OPI, GU3TUX, OZ7KDJ.

I can certainly manage without all those failure messages and no doubt Andy has been having the same problem. My apologies to GU3TUX incidentally. I have had emails from him since he left his previous address but failed to record the new one.

FCC AND THE CODE TEST

Nancy is encouraging the U.S. members to petition the FCC and object to proposed removal of the C.W. requirement for all future licences. No doubt it had to come at some time though as what is seen as one of the last bastions of c.w. friendly authorities in the Western world it is something of a disappointment. Meanwhile the atrocious conditions especially on 40m leaves c.w. as virtually the only viable mode on that band.

ACTIVITY LADDER 2005.

July Returns. Call.	Pnts	Overall Totals. Call.	Pnts
G4LHI	35	M5ABN	201
M5ABN	28	G4LHI	187
M5AGL	7	M0BHA	80
MX5HDF	6	GW4HDB	52
M0CMQ	5	OH7QR	49
M0DRK	2	M0DRK	37
		2E0TEK	29
		MX5HDF	27
		M5AGL	25
		M0CMQ	13
		PA3AFF	8
		G8XGQ	2

Once again conditions have not been good but Peter G4LHI and Peter M5ABN managed to find a few contacts. Many thanks to every one who has supported the Ladder And our other contests while I have been your contest manager. Robert , M0BPT . m0bpt@blueyonder.co.uk is taking over as

Your new contest manager from the 1st Sept 05 and I know you will all give him the wonderful support you have given me. All the best and good contesting de Bob.

KATRINA

No doubt you will all have been as shocked and dismayed as myself when news along with horrific pictures came from New Orleans, the Gulf coast and adjoining areas of the southern US. I do not doubt that many of our member must be affected by this catastrophe and the estimate of thousands of fatalities. The rolling headlines on World News intimated that martial law had been declared but this is seemed to be disputed by a later interview with a BBC Washington correspondence. Whatever the case, it is still deeply disturbing. KZ4IZ distributed a list of frequencies (QSP via F5NQL) used by the emergency services.

SWISS QRP CONTEST

The HTC (Helvetia Telegraphy Club, Switzerland, EUCW) kindly invites you to take part in the Swiss HTC-QRP-Sprint held on the second Saturday in September from 13:00 - 18:59 UTC

The objective is to activate the short wave bands, primarily with QRP-stns and give the opportunity to work stations for the USKA and other diploma.

Date: September 10th 2005 QTR: 13:00 - 18:59 Uhr UTC.

QRG: 3,520-3,570 MHz, 7,020-7,040 MHz und 14,020-14,070 MHz. (80 - 40 - 20m bands)

Class: VLP - max. 1 watt output / QRP - max. 5 watts output / QRO - more than 5 watts output.

Exchange: RST/class/canton/name (example: 579/QRP/ZH/Maurice)

The score takes into account your own power class and that of the other stations.

For downloading the rules and the logsheets see www.htc.ch

We hope to see you and your friends in the Swiss HTC QRP Sprint on Saturday the 10. September 2005.

GL in contestes 72/73, Guido, HB9BQB, Contest manager. I know that many of you have at least taken part previously if not actually entered a claim and this info comes via Maurice,

DX INFO VIA F5NQL

Received from Serge, F6AML, one of the TO7C gang: I'll be active, and may be with another former TO7C gang member, from The Reunion Island (IOTA AF-016, DIFO FR-001) between September 27th and October 23rd. While, I'll will take a short trip to Mayotte (IOTA AF-027, DIFO FH-001), between October 10 to 14, 40 to 10 meters, CW/SSB, using the former TO7C frequencies (<http://to7c.free.fr>)

QSL OK via le bureau ou direct.

From Laci, HA0HW, through MDX:

Laci HA0HW will go to Thassos Island (EU-174) as J48HW (<http://www.qrz.com/callsign/j48hw>) and SV8/HA0HW/p between 11 to 18 of September.

The operation will take place on HF bands (80 to 10 m, WARC including) on CW, SSB, BPSK31 and RTTY. The rig is FT-840, monoband dipoles and Gps on fishing poles. QSL cards are OK via HA-bureau or direct.

73 de Laci, ha0hw@pannondxc.hu

HELP

Steve, GW4ALG, requests your help in his drive to maintain the position and integrity of the CW bands especially on 40m. He writes:

All UK amateurs wanting to help determine the future of the 'CW Only' segments (and other spectrum matters) should join the Yahoo Group indicated near the top of the web page at: http://www.rsgb-spectrumforum.org.uk/iaru_reg_1_c4_committee.htm

Please do look into this as a matter of no small importance. Steve as one of our more recent members, is extremely passionate on this subject.

THE WANDERER RETURNS

Chuck M0AVW, enjoyed his stay in a dominican 5-star hotel but the trip itself left something to be desired. 400 miles out, one of the engines went belly up and after being refused landing permission in the US and Bermuda they were obliged to return. Here the errant engine was sorted and they had to start all over again. Bit hairy to say the least.

THE STRAWBERRY BASKET

G0UKX. Not exactly being on top of the world health wise recently, Ray's XYL considered the need for 'doing up the shack' logic came to the fore and she suggested they just pile everything in the middle of the room and *get someone else in to do the work.*

G0FYs. Jim was talked into a video session with the beeb which seemingly can be found at www.bbc.co.uk/videonation. The title - Morse Code and Rhubarb. Bit cryptic.

G0PQU. Cyril's trip to ZS was fb with access to Capetown Radio Station. Nil activity on CW these days of course.

G3RNB. It is a fact of course that there will always be someone who is worse off than yourself and in Alan's case he describes it as neuropathy affecting both hands and legs but this has now degenerated into Parkinsons. Whilst his reading skills are as sharp as ever he is nable to send by hand, relying on a PC programme. His touch typing ability has also deserted him, reducing him to a two-finger typist.

G3BMO. Bert whose xyl passed away some 18 months ago is still finding life a little strange to cope with. Must be a 'rookie' on the PC since it appears to be the first time he has accessed the website and the fact that his printer has gone pear shaped doesn't help things. I use the Epson C82 for some tasks Bert and the only problems thus far have all been related to replacement cartridges so I could well be sharing your canoe.

ZS6ME. Thank you for your kind enquiry via SGQ Eric and as you can see, things are slowly returning to norm. If all you got was three lines Eric then something is wrong somewhere - there were two full pages!

G3ZPF. Thank you for the tips David and as regards RAOTA and the 'myths' surrounding it, here goes: **The RAOTA** (Radio Amateurs Old Timers Assoc) seeks to keep alive the pioneer spirit and traditions of the past in today's Amateur Radio by means of personal and radio contacts whilst being mindful of any special needs

Full Membership. Open to anyone who has been actively involved in Amateur Radio for over 25 years. This does not necessarily indicate the holding of a licence for that period.

Associate Membership. Aside from voting rights, read Full membership.

A Quarterly magazine in printed form or audio cassette is distributed and a copy may be found on www.raota.org or from G3FEW (QTHR).

Tnks for info re OFCOM David.. very comforting and I share your thoughts re the 'champion of amateur radio' and sure hope you have lotsa fun with the digicam.

G3TTH. Must say that I am very much comforted by a letter from Tex, G3TTH, who underwent the same problem as myself and completely lost sight in his left eye due to diabetic bleeding. Over a period of several months, limited vision gradually returned and is now as good as ever. Even more comforting is the fact that that this is not the only letter in a similar vein - some four or five members have offered the same observations.

NEW MEMBERS

10880	M3KNF	Mike	10881	G4YVY	Tim
10882	EI8JP	Roger	10883	EI2TF	Ron
10884	M0MKC	Malc	10885	GW4ALG	Steve

There are a few more yet awaiting processing and I shall be doing this in the next few days.

FINALE

Cheers for now people. Will try and get next one out on time.

FISTS EAST ASIA

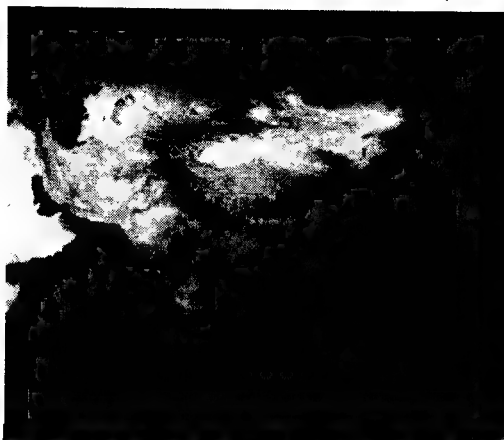
- East Asia Chapter of FISTS CW Club -



NEWS LETTER

morsEAsia

October 2005



Editor: JJ8KGZ/Leo H. Tsukada
1-25 Higashi 6-6, Memuro
Hokkaido 082-0016, Japan

E-mail: jj8kgz@fists-ea.org

Greetings!

After this long newspaper holidays, preparation was made to publish our news letter with a new name "morsEAsia" and we sincerely thank you for your waiting. The administration members solicited new names for this paper from the members of FISTS East Asia and some ideas were exchanged and we eventually chose this name "morsEAsia" which got 6 votes. We would like to express our appreciation to John 9V1VV for this new name. The other ideas and number of vote were shown below.

Total vote was 14. (Results are shown below)

- 1) FAR EAST 5
- 2) FEAST 2
- 3) FEATHER 1
- 4) morsEAsia 6

Apology From The Editor:

Some of the messages and letters here are old because they are not published for about a year due to the discontinuance of this news letter.

Message from FISTS DOWN UNDER

Congratulations to FISTS Asia on their anniversary. We hope that your members have enjoyed their new association and that it will continue to grow. We started in FISTS Down Under with very few members but have now 140 on the books including four clubs. We look forward to the time when FEA will become much bigger than we are! We hope that your members will make many contacts with our members so that they can qualify for the FISTS Down Under Award. The rules are on our web site www.fistsdownunder.morsekeys.com

Ralph Sutton ZL2AOH
12c Herbert Gardens
186 The Terrace
Wellington 6001
New Zealand

The Latest News of Ourselves

K6KF / JM1JOT also JL8MIL/ Jun Matsuya # 9117

< Return to Japan >

It's only been a year since I moved to Southern California, but I will change my QTH once again for a new job. This time my relocation is going to be a big one - I am leaving the U.S. permanently. My U.S. life started in 2000 by joining a company in Silicon Valley. I was pretty busy catching up at work and also establishing my new life in another country for a couple of years, but after that, I felt like something and decided to get back to the world of Ham Radio. In 2002, I passed the exams and purchased a radio and a paddle. It was just after an interval of ten years to get on the air. Since then, I really enjoyed working FISTS members, even though I was not that active operator, and that led to obtaining some awards such as FISTS CC, WAS and DXCC. After moving in this small apartment in Southern California, my CW activities have almost ended due to some restrictions in the apartment community. So what's next? I will try to setup a small station at my next QTH - Hokkaido, Japan. I hope I can find a good apartment for setting up a stealth antenna. Hopefully, I will be able to find a house with a fair space for beam antennas.

JO3HPM (previously JJ1XET) / Naoyasu Hosoda #15008

Some members have had a FISTS EA slow English Net since last December. It is interesting for me to join the Net now. Because I know I need more practice of English to enjoy CW chat with many hams all over the world. I hope my English becomes well by the Net and it continues forever.

I changed my call last August. I no longer need to add "/3" at the end of my call. At the same time, I increased the power from 50W to 100W. If you hear my CQ call which is a little stronger than before, please call me.

JR0QWW / Taro Iguchi # 5578

Recently, I am so busy that I can not have so much time to QRV.

However, I like CW very much and I would like to QRV on radio, any time, anywhere.

I really expect to contact all of you.

JG0MWU/ Kenichi Kamata # 15015

Hello FISTS EA members; this is JG0MWU "Ken"

I joined FISTS last February. I will renew my amateur radio system after an interval of ten years. When the snow on the roof is gone, I will set up the DP antenna with the bamboo stick. Then I should train my CW skill more and more from beginner's level. My hobbies, other than amateur radio, are snowboarding and watching professional wrestling. I like to snowboard on deep powder snow and to watch Japanese woman's professional wrestling especially. I hope to communicate with you some time. Thank you. 73. de KEN JG0MWU
jg0mwu@jarl.com

*** Apology from the editor**

This message was forwarded early spring and now he has already installed his improved antenna system CHA250B on his roof. And he's very active on most of the bands.

JJ1BDX also JO3FUO / Kenji Rikitake # 8962

While IARU and the amateurs in general are more and more in favor of removing the Code requirement, the actual use of Morse Code on the air still prevails, especially when the HF CONDX is getting worse every day (until the next sun-spot cycle begins). Most of the JA and Asian amateurs, however, do not fully explore the potential performance of Morse Code; they only send 5NN BK and can only recognize their callsigns. FISTS-EA will still be in the vanguard of defending the usage of Morse Code not only for DX hunting, but for emotional and meaningful communication to enhance fraternity among amateurs in East Asian regions and the rest of the world. If you meet a FISTS-EA member, please send something other than 5NN BK - they will happily respond in cordial greetings.
Happy birthday FISTS-EA!

JJ8KGZ / Leo H. Tsukada # 4843

Away from amateur radio, I have spent my hectic days with my wife establishing my private firm and raising my two boys and especially Noa, my first daughter, who was born 4 years ago. These 6 years had passed like an arrow and I asked myself if I was happy when my son was about to graduate from an elementary school. "Yes, yes!" I was happy but something was missing. The radio that was shoved back into the closet was FT817; one of my friends gave me 4 years ago. I was not very interested in radio anymore at that time. But one night, I sneaked out of the bedroom and hooked up the coax cable from my old wire antenna that was neglected on the roof for a long time, to my FT 817. It felt just like the good old days to hear the noise of HF bands and was listening to the sounds of CW with a sweet sense of déjà vu.

This February, I bought a brand-new rig IC756 pro3 and resumed my CW operation.

My FISTS number 4843 was suspended and I thought that had been already expired because I was not active member anymore 6 years ago. I did not think that I would join FISTS again and felt sorry because of my long neglect with my old FISTS friends such as JM6FMW/Naka, JR0QWW/Taro and so on. Making CQ on 17m one evening, I was called from JG0MWU / Ken and he explained about his antenna CHA250B which was produced by COMET, in his own inimitable phrase like 'A STRANGE ANT', and I thought 'oh boy he's funny!'. As you know, most of the Japanese CW operators do not explain their antenna that way. An idea popped up into my mind. "He must be a member of FISTS", because the way they operate CW is not the same as other JA's. They are enthusiasts of chatting with CW, right? I asked him if he was a member of FISTS and he replied 'yes' and gave me his FISTS number 15015. Then asked, 'U ? Are U a FISTS member?' I answered 'I used to be a member of FISTS 6 years ago but I am not now'.

After the enjoyable QSO, a week later, I received e-mail from Naka / JM6FMW and Jun / K6KF and they advised me to rejoin FISTS. It seemed that Ken JG0MWU posted a message about me on the FISTS EA message board after the QSO we had in that evening. Having my old FISTS number 4843, I enjoy chatting with fellow FISTS members almost every night. I really would like to say "thank you" to the members who managed to contact me and let me enroll again.



Other Topics

FISTS EA Web site renewal

FISTS EA web site was renewed on the URL shown below and it includes new functions.

<http://www.feacw.net/>

Sh, Actually, this domain has been determined because of its easy usage with CW code on the air

* **Search engines:** You can search for not only FISTS EA members but worldwide members with using both of their FISTS numbers or their call signs. The reference retrieval is made from "allfists txt" at www.fists.org.

* **QRVinfo :** A PacketCluster like BBS, QRVinfo on the site is now available and used a lot by FISTS EA members. If you would like to know which members are currently on the air or you want to chat with some members on certain frequency, you can go QRVinfo and spot yourself. Sometimes, it is used like a chat room by some members but it is really fun! Any members can use this QRV info for your QSOs.

Information

1. Mail address: [callsign]@feacw.net is available.
2. URL forwarding service is also available with the domain www.feacw.net/callsign/

Further questions or requests are welcome at
webadmin@feacw.net



FISTS EA New Members

- # 15012 JS6OFT/Shige
- # 15013 BU2AC/Hsu
- # 15014 JR3TVH(also AH2E)/Taka
- # 15015 JG0MWU/Ken
- # 15016 BX2AH/Chen
- # 15017 JJ0KUS/Mura
- # 15018 VR2AJ/Mak
- # 4843 JJ8KGZ/Leo (Reentrant)

Eyes Down!

JL3YMV FISTS JA National Club Station's call has been issued!!

The international club station of FISTS JA about to start its operation with its call JL3YMV this fall. The station obtains its FISTS # 15000 and is equipped with a rig TS-2000SX (50W) and Yagi antenna for 40 to 10m. We are now proceeding with the preparations on a quest to get on the air when C2C contest starts. See you on the air soon. We really thank Jean / JL3SIK for his taking much trouble on our behalf to get the call issued.

FEA Club Stations

FISTS No.	Callsign	Club Name	Managed by	Pts	Rig, Ant, etc
15000	JL3YMV	FISTS JA National Club Station	Jean, JL3SIK	5	TS-2000SX (50W) Yagi (40-10m)
15100	JE7YTQ	FISTS JA7	Sugi, JK7UST	3	DX-70G (50W), FT-817 (5W) Zepp (80m), Dipole (40/30/17/12m), Yagi (20/15m),
15200	JO1ZZZ	JARL A1 Club	Atsu, JE1TRV	3	various (50W)

CW lover's car in Japan
by Nao JO3HPM



Can you see the license plate of my car? Yes, it's 599!

In Japan, license plate numbers are mainly defined by city name and four digit number. If a car owner pays extra fee, he or she can select desired four digit number. Some lucky numbers such as 1, 777 and 8888 are popular and many people desire those numbers. The owners of its license plate numbers are decided by lot. But, because 599 is a meaningless number for ordinary people so we can get it soon. Following WWW page shows many CW lover's car in Japan.

<http://www.a1club.net/599/599.htm>

Scenery of Japan
Do you know where these places are?

The answers are shown on page 9.



The amateur radio experiences of a “gaijin” in Japan

By Ralph Sutton ZL2AOH / 7J5AAN (FISTS #1073)

* ‘Gaijin’ means foreigners in Japanese.



In early 1995 my wife Gwenda received an invitation to go to Japan to teach Esperanto to someone in the small town of Shirotori in Kagawa prefecture, Shikoku Island. The arrangement was that she would teach for one year and that I would be able to accompany her.

Before leaving New Zealand I researched the amateur radio scene in Japan, corresponding with some hams whom I had worked and also visited a New Zealand ham who had travelled to Japan several times. I had not been to Japan myself since 1945!

I obtained the necessary forms and made an application for a Japanese licence through JARL. I hoped to be able to operate on a visitor's permit. Although I did not take my HF equipment, I packed my ICOM W2E dual-band handheld. I planned to purchase a suitable HF rig if and when I got my Japanese licence.

The gentleman, to whom Gwenda was contracted to teach Esperanto, had at one time held a licence but he is no longer active. However, he kindly introduced me to the local ham scene. I visited JA5PUL, Sing Sano, who lived in an historic house in the nearby town of Hiketa. Sing is a DXCC honours member. I was also introduced to JR5KQP Toshio Tanaka, who was the chairman of the local club, East Sanuki Family Radio Club.

I received a reply in May 1995 that my application for a Japanese licence had been rejected, as there was no reciprocal agreement between Japan and New Zealand. I studied the documents and noted that there was a reciprocal agreement between Japan and Australia. I had earlier held an Australian licence when I attended Scout Jamborees in Australia. I decided to try to have that licence re-issued and sent off an application to the Radio Frequency Service in Melbourne.

After a long time I had not received a reply, so I sent a hurry-up letter. I received a prompt reply accompanied by my licence for VK3FDW. A short time later I received the original copy of the licence that had been sent by sea mail.

I sent my new application to JARL HQ in August with a photocopy of the Australian licence.

The local club made me very welcome and I was invited to take part in several activities such as an open day on the Shirotori anniversary day, an emergency communications exercise and a junk sale. We had no language in common but managed to get on very well together. They are a very friendly and generous group of people.

I travelled to Tokyo several times, of course visiting the electronics Mecca of Akihabara.

On the second visit I called at the JARL HQ and received a great welcome. There I met the President of JARL Shozo Hara JA1AN. Fred Johnson ZL2AMJ was there in his capacity of Chairman of the IARU Region 3 Administrative Committee, so it was nice to catch up with another New Zealand ham. I also met with other members of the Region 3 committees.

At the same time, the annual JARL Ham Fair was taking place at a large convention centre close to the downtown area. I arranged to meet at the fair Haruto Murofushi JA1BMA whom I had worked on the air. The fair was an enormous event with thousands of visitors. Visiting the manufacturers' stands and the numerous club stands with a big range of new and second hand equipment, occupied a whole day.

I also visited Osaka and of course went to the electronics area in Nippombashi. It is not as extensive as Akihabara of course, but interesting nevertheless. I also visited ICOM HQ where I arranged to get a replacement leather case for my W2E handheld.

Another trip was made to Seoul, Korea where I met a couple of hams and was taken to their electronics market. There was equipment on display from Korean manufacturers that we do not normally see in New Zealand.

In November I eventually received my Japanese licence with the call 7J5AAN. My first QSOs with this call were made from the QTH of JR5KQP. I studied the available HF equipment. I decided that it had to be self-contained with an integral power supply and tuner, so that it would be easy to set up a station. The rig that met the specification and that was within my budget was the ICOM-736 that had recently appeared on the market. I negotiated with Denka Centre in Takamatsu the prefecture capital some 40 km from Shirotori. They had to make a special order as the normal versions on sale in Japan were hard wired for the Japanese band plan that is considerably more restrictive than the New Zealand plan. I also purchased a Diamond multi band dipole antenna and a Himound HK-902 key. Denka Centre added an ICOM SM-20 desk microphone and headphones at no extra cost.. So I was fully equipped to get on the air. I was able to suspend the antenna at about 3.5 metres above ground. A friendly neighbouring builder gave me a copper earth rod that was easily inserted into the sandy soil. I dug in about 500 grams of salt to help make a better ground. Fortunately, immediately above the rod was an air conditioning unit that leaked condensed water on to the ground, so a good earth was maintained at all times. It was early December 1995 that I eventually was up and running. Between then and March 1996 when we returned home, I made over 500 contacts in 35 countries, principally using CW. For a while I had a daily sked with Bill Hamer ZL2CD (FISTS #9004.) I only managed one New Zealand SSB contact from Shirotori, with Barry Stewart ZL2RR, the NZ QSL manager.

I attended the annual meeting of JARL Kagawa and received a great welcome. I had worked from New Zealand two of those present - Masayo Matsumoto JA1AYC, a JARL councillor and Mitsui Kunikata JH5PLN.

Late on the night of 17 January 1996 when working 80 metres I was called by Makoto Kamada JE1CLH (FISTS #9012). We had a very long chat and arranged to meet on air again a week later. Since then Mack and I have maintained almost weekly skeds. Just before leaving Japan I accepted Mack's invitation to visit his home and there I had the pleasure of meeting his family. At the same time, at Mack's place I met Jonathon Hanes 7J1AWL/KC7FYS whom I had earlier worked on the air. From Mack's shack I had an enjoyable SSB round with several members of my home club. A few years later we had the pleasure of a visit from Mack here in New Zealand.

I remember my Japanese amateur radio experiences with pleasure. I only wish that I had received my licence much earlier in my stay.

Suggested Calling Frequencies

You can find FISTS members on/near following recommended calling frequencies.
QSO's should be QSY'd another frequency.

FISTS	160m	80m	40m	30m	20m	17m	15m	12m	10m	6m	2m
East Asia	-	-	-	10.118 10.138 (*1)	14.058	18.085	21.058	24.918	28.058 28.158 (*2)	-	-
HQ/Europe	-	3.558	7.028	-	14.058	-	21.058	-	28.058	-	-
North America	1.808	3.558 3.708	7.028 7.058 7.118	10.118	14.058	18.085	21.058 21.158	24.918	28.058 28.158	50.058	144.058
Down Under	1.808	3.528	7.028	10.118	14.058	18.085	21.058 21.158	24.918	28.058 28.158	-	-
QRP calling freqs (*3)	-	-	-	10.106 10.116	14.060	18.086 18.096	21.060 21.110	24.906 24.910	28.060 28.110	-	-

(*1) BV [Taiwan] stations are allowed to use 10.130 to 10.150.

(*2) BV [Taiwan] stations are allowed to use above 28.100.

(*3) International QRP calling frequencies are neighborhood.

FISTS East Asia CW Net

We have informal CW sessions for ANYONE who wants to practice English QSO.

When	on Sundays @ East Asia
Part I	between 7.025MHz and 7.030MHz, sometimes between 18.080MHz and 18.085MHz starting 2300UTC on Saturdays (0700 Taiwan/Singapore Time, 0800 JST on Sundays)
Part II	between 14.050MHz and 14.055MHz starting 0800UTC on Sundays (1600 Taiwan/Singapore Time, 1700 JST on Sundays)
Speed	12WPM to 15WPM
Controlled by	Nao, JO3HPM, Sugi, JK7UST/JE7YTQ, and Chen, BX2AH
Managed by	Nao, JO3HPM
Any other announcements	Might be posted to the <u>English BBS</u> .

FISTS EA NET Results from May to September 2005

No.	Date (Y/M/D)	Time (UTC)	Freq. (MHz)	Controller	Participant
40-2	2005/9/25	0800-0910	14.055	JO3HPM(Nao)	JL8MIL(Jun), VR2AJ(Mak), JR0QWW/0(Taro)
40-1	2005/9/24	2300-2400	7.0255	JE7YTQ(sugi)	JL8MIL(Jun), JO3HPM(Nao), JJ8KGZ(Leo)
39-2	2005/9/18	none	none	none	None
39-1	2005/9/17	2300-2345	7.026	JO3HPM(Nao)	JJ8KGZ(Leo), JE1TRV(Atsu), JR0QWW(Taro), JE3ECD(Hide), JL8MIL(Jun)
38-2	2005/9/11	0800-0915	14.055	JO3HPM(Nao)	JK7UST(Sugi), VR2AJ(Mak), JL8MIL(Jun), BX2AH(Chen), JL3SIK(Jean)
38-1	2005/9/10	2310-2500	18.086	JL8MIL(Jun)	JJ8KGZ(Leo), JG0SXC(Man), JK7UST(Sugi), JE1TRV(Atsu)
37-2	2005/9/4	0800-0900	14.0545	JO3HPM(Nao)	BX2AH(Chen), JL8MIL(Jun)
37-1	2005/9/3	2300-2400	7.0265	JO3HPM(Nao)	JJ8KGZ(Leo), JF3KNW(Nobu), JL8MIL(Jun)
36-2	2005/8/28	0800-0845	14.0545	JJ1XET/3(nao)	JL8MIL(Jun)
36-1	2005/8/27	2300-2400	7.0255	JE7YTQ(sugi)	JL8MIL(Jun), JJ8KGZ(leo), JG0SXC(Man), JO3HPM(Nao), JE1TRV(Atsu)
35-2	2005/8/21	0800-0830	14.0505	JJ1XET/3(nao)	none
35-1	2005/8/20	2300-2400	7.0275	JJ1XET/3(nao)	JJ8KGZ(Leo), JG0SXC(Man), JL8MIL(Jun), JA1NUT(Shin)
34-2	2005/8/14	0800-0830	14.054	JJ1XET/3(nao)	none
34-1	2005/8/13	2300-2400	7.0295	JE7YTQ(sugi)	JM1JOT(jun), JJ1XET/3(nao), JG0SXC(man), JJ8KGZ(leo)
33-2	2005/8/7	0800-0850	14.055	JJ1XET/3(nao)	BX2AH(chen)
33-1	2005/8/6	2300-2350	7.008	JE7YTQ(sugi)	JJ1XET/3(nao), JR0QWW/0(taro)
32-2	2005/7/31	0800-0850	14.055	JJ1XET/3(nao)	JA1NUT(shin), BX2AH(chen)
32-1	2005/7/30	2300-2350	7.0245	JE7YTQ(sugi)	JJ8KGZ(leo), JJ1XET/3(nao), JG0SXC(man)
31-2	2005/7/24	0800-	14.050	JE1CLH(mack)	ZL1KCA(Ken), ZL2AOH(Ralph)
31-1	2005/7/23	none	none	none	none
30-2	2005/7/17	0800-0845	14.0545	JJ1XET/3(nao)	none
30-1	2005/7/16	2300-2400	7.0245	JE7YTQ(sugi)	JJ1XET/3(nao), JR0QWW/0(taro), JJ8KGZ(leo)
29-2	2005/7/10	0800-0900	14.050	JJ1XET/3(nao)	JE1CLH(mack), JA1NUT(shin)
29-1	2005/7/9	2300-2350	7.0245	JE7YTQ(sugi)	JJ1XET/3(nao), JE1TRV(atsu)

28-2	2005/7/3	0800-0910	14.055	JJ1XET/3(nao)	JO3FUO(kenji),JG0SXC(man), JE1TRV(atsu)
28-1	2005/7/2	2300-0000	7.0245	JE7YTQ(sugi)	JJ8KGZ(leo),JJ1XET/3(nao), JA1NUT(shin), JG0SXC(man)
27-2	2005/6/26	0015-0100	14.054	BX2AH(chen)	JA1NUT(shin), BX2AF(liou)
27-1	2005/6/25	2305-2315	7.024	JJ1XET/3(nao)	JG0SXC(man)
26-2	2005/6/19	0025-0150	14.055	JJ1XET/3(nao)	JE1CLH(mack),BX2AH(chen), BX2AF(liou)
26-1	2005/6/18	2300-2345	7.024	JK7UST(sugi)	JJ1XET/3(nao), JG0SXC(man)
25-2	2005/6/12	0018-0115	14.0525	JJ1XET/3(nao)	JE1TRV(atsu),JF3KNW(nobu), BX2AH(chen)
25-1	2005/6/11	2300-2330	7.024	JK7UST(sugi)	JJ1XET/3(nao)
24-2	2005/6/5	0030-0145	14.0505	JJ1XET/3(nao)	JK7UST(sugi),JF3KNW(nobu), BX2AH(chen)
24-1	2005/6/4	2230-2300	7.024	JK7UST(sugi)	none
23-2	2005/5/29	0015-0115	14.053	BX2AH(chen)	JJ1XET/4(nao),BX2AF(liou), BX2AN(Lee)
23-1	2005/5/28	2330-2400	7.026	JG0SXC(man)	JA1NUT(shin), JJ1XET/4(nao)
22-2	2005/5/22	0015-0045	14.053	BX2AH(chen)	BX2AF(liou)
22-1	2005/5/21	2300-2400	7.026	JK7UST(sugi)	JG0SXC(man)
21-2	2005/5/15	0015-0115	14.054	BX2AH(chen)	JA1NUT(shin), BV2WS(chung)
21-1	2005/5/14	2300-2400	7.025	JK7UST(sugi)	JJ1XET/3(nao), JG0SXC(man)
20-2	2005/5/8	0015-0125	14.052	BX2AH(chen)	BX2AC(tony),JJ1XET/3(nao), BW2/JA7FYF(aki)

.-.-.

The answers of Japanese sceneries are
Hokkaido (Left) and Kyoto (Right)

HOW DO I UPDATE MY ADDRESS or CALL SIGN ON THE FISTS DATABASE? Send corrections or changes to Nancy Kott, WZ8C, at FISTS, P. O. Box 47, Hadley, MI 48440 or email to nancy@tir.com. Please send labels with your corrections to the FISTS QSL Bureau so the bureau workers don't have to change all your SASEs by hand.

HOW DO I GET AN UP-TO-DATE MEMBER LIST? Send a SASE with \$2.00 (US) to Ed, N7CFA 2628 Lilac Street, Longview, WA 98632. Lists are available on the FISTS Web page. The search engine feature on the main web page is updated more frequently than the text list on the web page, however it mainly contains North American members. The text list on the web page includes both DX and North American members. Because being listed on the members list is a benefit of being a member in good standing, only Active members are listed on the membership roster.

HOW DO I GET ON THE FISTS EMAIL LIST? To receive periodic official Email updates, send your Email address, call sign and FISTS number to Kathi Hilton. fistelist@comcast.net. If you put your email address on your application, it is automatically added to the list. Due to potential spam problems, the list is NOT given out to the membership and is NOT published on the web page. It is ONLY used to notify you of FISTS items of interest. If you want people to know your e-mail address, we recommend you include it in your listing on QRZ.com or Buckmaster lookup service.

HOW DO I ORDER CLUB SUPPLIES? Irene W08E, 44609 N. Bunker Hill Dr., Clinton Twp, MI 48038 is our Supply Manager. Club supplies are sold as close to cost as possible. We offer: round metallic gold logo stickers, 200 for \$3.50 & I "red heart" CW stickers, 3/4" round stickers, \$3.50 for 200. Blue enamel cloisonne/gold metal "FISTS CW CLUB" octagon logo pin, with tie-tack type pin back \$1.50. White enamel cloisonne pin "I (red heart graphic) CW" "FISTS CW CLUB" along edge. 3/4" diameter circle tie-tack type pin on back \$1.50. Embroidered cloth patch of our rectangle key logo, \$1.00. The patches can be ironed on or sewn. Travel mugs with "I (heart) CW on BOTH sides - \$5. You may use Paypal to order supplies. Send the total amount to fists@tir.com and put the items you would like in the comments box. Be sure your name & address are included. **ALL PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE. DO NOT ADD POSTAGE TO YOUR TOTAL**

HOW DO I GET FISTS SHIRTS? Show the world that you are proud to be a FISTS member. We have t-shirts, sweatshirts, and polo shirts. The front of the t-shirts and sweatshirts are printed in silver: I'm PROUD to be a KNOW CODE Ham and the backs of the shirts are printed in light blue with the FISTS key logo graphic and Join the Code Crusade <http://www.fists.org>. The T-shirts are available in two solid colors: black or royal blue (a medium blue, not navy). Sweatshirts are gray with royal blue printing on the front and back. The polo/golf shirts are sky blue with the FISTS key tastefully EMBROIDERED on the top left side. They are short sleeved and have a knit collar and a couple buttons at the neck. Sizes are small, medium, large, XL, 2XL, and 3XL. All shirts are 50/50 blend. The T's are "Best" Fruit of the Loom. Sweats are 5.8 oz Jerzee and Polos are Fruit of the Loom. Prices are: *T-shirts = \$6.00 including POSTAGE* *Sweats = \$11.00 including POSTAGE* *Polos = \$14.00 including POSTAGE*. NOTE: Contact Nancy WZ8C (nancy@tir.com) for non-USA postage.

You may order using Paypal. The email address to use for Paypal is fists@tir.com. Do NOT use nancy@tir.com. In the "comments" box of the Paypal form, please be specific about what you are ordering, since this info will be used to fill your order. To order by mail, send your order (don't forget to include what color tshirt you want, and the size!) to Nancy Kott WZ8C, PO Box 47, Hadley MI 48440. Checks payable to FISTS, Paypal to fists@tir.com.

HOW DO I GET/SEND FISTS QSL CARDS Via BURO? Keep SASEs in stock with the FISTS QSL Bureau. Stan Reas K4UK runs the Bureau. Send envelopes to 1020 Long Island Drive Moneta, VA 24121

HOW DO I SEND APPLICATION OR SAMPLE NEWSLETTER TO A FRIEND? For a brochure, email Jim AA9LS at aa9ls@turbotoads.com with their name, call sign, and postal address. SASEs are appreciated. Joe's postal address is 33778 Rebecca Rd, Kingston IL 60145. An application is available for downloading on our web page <http://www.fists.org>.

APPLY FOR AN OPERATING AWARD? Dennis Franklin K6DF is the Awards Manager. We have many different operating awards. Details are on our web page or in the Keynotes. Dennis's contact information is fistsawards@comcast.net or 4658 Capitan Drive Fremont, CA 94536-5448

WHAT IS KN0WCW AND HOW DO I OPERATE KN0WCW? KN0WCW is the USA FISTS Callsign. Members in good standing (meaning, paid up dues) can operate KN0WCW from their home station after getting PERMISSION. To get

permission, contact Karl Zuege, KB1DSB (kb1dsb@sover.net). A schedule of operators can be found on the FISTS Web page. Remember, when you're using KN0WCW, you're flying the flag for FISTS, so please operate responsibly.

HOW DO I VOLUNTEER TO BE or GET A CODE BUDDY?

W3GR, The Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club members are the volunteers handling the Code Buddy Program. Contact them at Box 746 MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203 or Email W3GR@arrl.net. We need ELMERS and Buddies, please volunteer to be a Code Buddy!! You don't have to be a speed demon to be a Code Buddy, lots of people just want someone to practice with, just like YOU! Code Buddy applications are available on line or from W3GR.

HOW DO I GET MY PHOTO ON THE PHOTO PAGES? Send a snapshot of yourself with your face about the size of a quarter to Ken W8ROG 44609 N. Bunker Hill Dr., Clinton Twp, MI 48038. If you have sent in a photo via email and it has not made it to the photopages, it is probably because Ken was unable to open it or shrink it to the proper size. Please send a printed copy of your photo jpg.

HOW DO I RECEIVE THE KEYNOTE ON TAPE? The Keynote is free on tape to legally blind members. Contact Ken W8ROG, 44609 N. Bunker Hill Dr., Clinton Twp, MI 48038. The tapes are read by John Whitt, AI4FR.

HOW DO I GET A COPY OF FISTS PRESENTATION to give at my local club meeting?

It's easy and fun! We send you everything you need for a snazzy 15-20 minute presentation, including sample newsletters and if possible, goodies left over from the Dayton booth. Contact Joe Spencer, KK5NA, 3618 Montridge Ct, Arlington TX 76016.

HOW DO I SUGGEST IDEAS FOR THE WEB PAGE? Contact Bill KK4KF at kk4kf@cox.net

HOW DO I GET MY HOME PAGE LISTED ON THE WEB PAGE? Contact Bill KK4KF at kk4kf@cox.net

HOW DO I ORDER FISTS CLUB QSL CARDS? You may use the FISTS logos and get cards from any printer you wish. Cheapqsls.com has made a special FISTS card with special pricing for FISTS members. For ordering information and to see the cards visit <http://www.cheapqsls.com/fists.htm>

HOW DO I GET A COPY OF THE K7QO CODE COURSE? You may get a free copy of this wonderful code course by sending a self-addressed-stamped-envelope large enough, and with enough postage to mail a CD, to Nancy at FISTS, PO Box 47, Hadley MI 48440. You may duplicate this CD and give it to your friends, or use it in a code class. If you would like a batch of them to give out at a hamfest or club meeting, we can do that, too. Contact Nancy WZ8C for details.

WHEN IS THE PIERPONT ART and SKILL BOOK COMING OUT? The book is being revised and we are aiming at a publication date before Hamvention 2006.

HOW DO I IMPROVE MY CODE SPEED and MEET LOTS OF NEW FRIENDS? Join FISTS! Get involved in the nets and activities! Volunteer to be a Code Buddy! Write an article for the Keynote about your interests and send it to Nancy WZ8C PO Box 47, Hadley MI or nancy@tir.com Get published. Be famous!

WHAT IS A CC NUMBER? CC stands for Century Certificate. It is the number on your Century Award Certificate. It is exchanged to earn different types of awards. There is NOT a separate "Century Club".

FISTS CW Club

Membership and Renewal Form



Please check here if this is a renewal or if you have had a FISTS number in the past.

Call sign: _____ **Name used on Air:** _____

Mailing Name & Address: _____

The following information provides a synopsis of the member's working conditions:

Rig(s): _____

Antennas: _____

Other Clubs Affiliations (ARRL, RSGB, etc.): _____

Other Interests: _____

Birthday: _____ **Home Phone:** _____ **Are you visually impaired?** _____

The newsletter is offered on audio cassette to blind members at no extra charge, do you require this service? _____

E-mail address:: _____

Please enclose annual membership fee of \$15 (U.S. Funds)

Date: _____ **Your Sponsor (Optional):** _____

Signature: _____

Please make checks payable to FISTS C.W. Club and return to:

North, Central, and South America
including all territories/islands;

Nancy Kott WZBC
POB 47
Hadley MI 48440-0047
USA

Europe, Asia, All others;

Geo Longden G3ZQS
119 Cemetery Rd.
DARWEN, BB3 2LZ
England